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KNITTING & CROCHET

ISSUE 148

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the
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CHANNEL

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views on YOUTUBE

YOU'D BE EVER SO SILLY NOT TO GET INVOLVED



Join the always creative, ingenious, marvellous Corinne Bradd on The Crafts Channel, your online masterclass for crafting techniques. There are hundreds of video demonstrations that are jam-packed with ideas for you to try – all from the comfort of your own home! The video tutorials help you master essential crafting skills including toymaking, plus knitting, crochet, cardmaking, papercraft, stitching, wire work, felting, origami, polymer clay and lots more. Phew! Along the way, Corinne offers up plenty of insider tidbits and handy advice, ensuring you come away armed with both knowledge and inspiration. What's not to enjoy?

YOUTUBE.COM/THECRAFTSCHANNEL



Hello!

What a special treat we've got for you this issue! We've brought back one of our **favourite kits of all time**, the bold and inspiring Artsy kit. There are lots of **new projects** for you to try, including **Chester the cute tiger** on page 9, and Sarah Louise Read's **patchwork puppy duo** on page 38. We're also very excited about the **beautiful headband** on page 44, designed exclusively for us by esteemed knitting author Joan of Dark using the colours in your kit. Along with all the marvellous makes inside this issue you can also **download for free** no less than ten further projects using the Artsy kit – turn to page 57 to find out more.

If you can bear to put down your needles or hook for a moment there are also some brilliant features to enjoy in this issue. We've made **saving money** a fun challenge with 24 tips and ideas, including a whole heap of discounts, starting on page 31. Designer of our headband Joan of Dark and photographer Kyle Cassidy have produced a very **exciting new book about Iceland** which is part travel guide, part knitting pattern collection - check out our lively interview with them on page 46. And **'Europe's coolest knitter'** Lærke Bagger shares her insights and ideas in our Tea & a Chat on page 66. Enjoy the issue!

Sarah

SARAH NEAL, EDITOR



YARNS
WITH HUGE
SHADE
RANGES ON
PAGE 51



YOUR *Artsy* YARN KIT



ELEPHANT
PURSE, P36



LITTLE ZEBEDEE, P49

MEET OUR EXPERTS



SACHIYO ISHII

Knit my artistic fox
on page 14



HEATHER GIBBS

Find my cute crocheted
snails on page 21



SARAH-JANE HICKS

Raid your stash to make
my cushion on page 34



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TOUCH**

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LET'S GET CRAFTING

KNITTING & CROCHET



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QUIRKY CROCHETED CRAYONS



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P9

**SUPER-CUTE
TIGER**

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**KITTY
DOORSTOP**

P55

READY TO GET CREATIVE? CHECK OUT THESE FAB COLOURS!

YOUR Artsy YARN KIT

Bold jewel shades
and soft yarns are
a sure-fire winner!

3.75MM
METAL
HOOK

SPECIAL
Variegated
YARN

3.75MM
BAMBOO
NEEDLES



SARAH NEAL, EDITOR

"One of our all-time favourites, the Artsy kit is back for a second outing! Inspired by an artist's palette, this vibrant kit is guaranteed to make you feel creative. There are over 35 projects to make with it, so the big question is what will you choose?"

Get in
TOUCH



POST YOUR MAKES ON
Facebook · Instagram · Twitter
SEE P19 FOR DETAILS

Newsflash!

Our pick of crafty
New Year buys



Dare to be square

Who doesn't love a granny square? We certainly do, which is why we're head-over-heels for this striking tank top! There are two versions in the leaflet for two different neck-lines – a v or round-neck – and you can pick your six favourite colours from the 100-strong Special DK range to make them in. RRP: £3.35, visit stylecraft-yarns.co.uk for stockists.



It's party time

This new year, why not get together with your friends, family, and neighbours to enjoy your favourite thing whilst supporting a great cause? The Knit for Peace Party Kits are crammed with enough yarn, needles, hooks and haberdashery for ten people to get crafting and all proceeds support Knit for Peace's work with abused women. £125 + £10 postage, knitforpeace.org.uk



Bunny business

We're hopping mad for this delightful new booklet of bunny patterns from King Cole. Designed by Jane Burns and Zoë Halstead, the rabbits themselves are made in the fabulously fluffy Truffle yarn, and they each have characterful outfits such as a swim suit, doctor's scrubs, and a Olympian's tracksuit! £4.99, woolwarehouse.co.uk

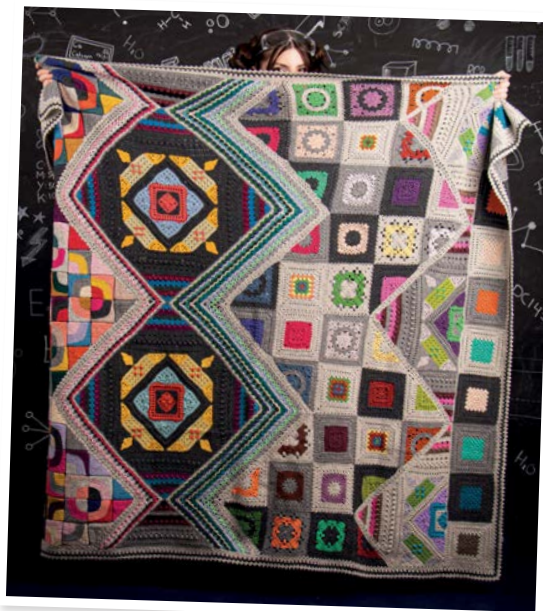


Heart of gold

This adorable rolled-edge sweater will have any tot looking sweet as sugar. It uses simple stocking stitch and the intarsia technique to produce the love heart motif, which is a great opportunity to practice your colourwork! Pattern M2663, £2, bergeredefrance.co.uk

To the lab!

Bring out the mad scientist in you with Scheepjes' latest crochet-along... Over 12 weeks starting on January 11th you'll be concocting the Colour Lab blanket designed by Rachele Carmona, which is all about experimenting with different shades – download the free colouring page to plan out your unique project from scheepjes.com where you'll also find more information.



Skill up!

Take your crochet from basic to brilliant with Nicki Trench's new book, *Easy Crochet for Beginners* (Cico Books, £14.99). Starting with simple projects like the beautiful springtime throw before moving on to the Practice Makes Perfect section including a chunky seashell scarf, and finally graduating to more advanced patterns such as a picot-edged cherub dress, you'll become a confident crocheter in no time.



KEEP COSY WITH...

Stuart Hillard

The yarn kit this issue is a particular favourite of mine. It's called Artsy and it's the most delicious blend of warm orange and golden tones mixed with purples, lilacs and pinks, reminding me of beautiful summer pansies or bearded irises growing in a cottage garden. When I need fresh colour inspiration for my crafting projects, I often turn to Mother Nature who seldom gets it wrong! I've only recently learned how to confidently crochet and I'm loving the speed and versatility of my newfound craft. I'm going to make a pair of wrist warmers to wear on chilly days. I'll start by working enough chains to comfortably fit around the widest part of my hand. I'm starting with Bold Red and then I'll work through Vibrant Orange and Bright Yellow before the Plum, Purple Mix and Soft Violet colours. I'm going to work a dense fabric of trebles worked first into the chain and then on every row after that I'll work in the "V" at the top of every stitch. This dense fabric will make sure my wrists and hands stay warm. Don't forget, the first treble will actually be three chains, and then I'll work trebles thereafter. I'll work in the round for the first repeat of all six colours, working one round of trebles in each colour. To create a hole for the thumb, I'll work right up to the last stitch, then instead of working a slip stitch into the first three chains I'll turn my work, start a new colour and work three chains, working back in the opposite direction. Keep doing this for two rounds of different colours and then go back to working in rounds. This will create a nice hole for my thumb to pop through! Enjoy your Artsy yarn pack, whatever you choose to make, and stay snug!

Stu X

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The Bawnimals



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Chester the tiger

Venture into the jungle with this friendly feline

Our
colourful big
cat was named
by Kellie Sinclair
on Facebook –
thanks for the
suggestion!



USING YOUR

Artsy

YARN KIT



PROJECT
OVERLEAF





PLUS
stuffing, safety
eyes, tapestry
needle

SIZE
23cm tall



Perfect for
beginners

TIGER body

Using 3.75mm
needles and
Vibrant Orange
cast on eight sts

**Row 1 and every
odd-numbered
row:** p

Row 2 (RS): (kfb)
to end. 16 sts

Row 4: (k1, kfb) to
end. 24 sts

Row 6: (k2, kfb) to
end. 32 sts

Row 8: (k3, kfb) to
end. 40 sts

Row 10: (k4, kfb)
to end. 48 sts

Rows 11-17: beg
with a p row work
in st st

Row 18: (k4, k2tog)
to end. 40 sts

Rows 19-21: cont
in st st

Row 22: (k3,
k2tog) to end.
32 sts

Rows 23-25: cont
in st st

Row 26: (k2,
k2tog) to end.
24 sts

Rows 27-29: cont
in st st

Row 30: (k1, k2tog)
to end. 16 sts

Row 31: p
Cast off



Tigers have long been a favourite member of the animal kingdom for kids and grown-ups alike with their charismatic stripes and vibrant fur.

AINE MARRIOTT has added even more charm to this one by giving him a splendid outfit of boots, dungarees and a roll-neck top – it's sure to be a hit with any tiger fan! Plus, it's nice and simple and won't take long to whip up.



head

Note: beg at
Snout

Using 3.75mm
needles and
Vibrant Orange
cast on eight sts

Row 1 (WS): p

Row 2: k1, (kfb)
twice, k2, (kfb)
twice, k1. 12 sts

Rows 3-5: beg
with a p row work
in st st

Row 6: k1, (kfb)
four times, k2,
(kfb) four times,
k1. 20 sts

Rows 7-9: cont in
st st

Row 10: k2, (kfb)
six times, k4, (kfb)
six times, k2. 32 sts

Rows 11-15: cont in
st st

Row 16: k4, (kfb)
eight times, k8,
(kfb) eight times,
k4. 48 sts

Rows 17-23: cont
in st st

Row 24: (k6,
k2tog) to end.
42 sts

**Row 25 and every
odd-numbered
row:** p

Row 26: (k5,
k2tog) to end.
36 sts

Row 28: (k4,
k2tog) to end.
30 sts

Row 30: (k3,
k2tog) to end.
24 sts

Row 32: (k2,
k2tog) to end.
18 sts

Row 33: (p2tog) to
end. Nine sts

Cut yarn leaving a
tail, thread
through rem sts,
pull tight and
fasten off

nose

Using 3.75mm
needles and Rich
Plum cast on
seven sts

**Row 1 and every
odd-numbered
row:** p

Row 2 (RS): k1, m1,
k5, m1, k1. Nine sts

Row 4: k1, ssk, k3,
k2tog, k1.

TOP TIP

WHEN WORKING THE
STRIPES ON THE TAIL,
CARRY THE YARN
NOT IN USE UP THE
SIDE OF YOUR WORK
RATHER THAN
CUTTING IT EACH TIME

Seven sts

Row 6: k2tog,
k3tog, k2tog.

Three sts

Cast off pwise

ear

Make two

Using 3.75mm
needles and
Vibrant Orange
cast on eight sts

Row 1: k

Change to
Rich Plum

Row 2: (k2tog) to
end. Four sts

Cut yarn leaving a
tail, thread
through rem sts,
pull tight and
fasten off

leg

Make two

Using 3.75mm
needles and Bold
Red cast on
eight sts

Row 1: (kfb) to
end. 16 sts

Rows 2-3: k

Rows 4-7: beg
with a k (RS) row
work in st st

Row 8: k3, k2tog,
(k3tog) twice,
k2tog, k3. Ten sts

Row 9: p

Row 10: k3, (k2tog)
twice, k3. Eight sts

Rows 11-15: beg
with a p row work
in st st

Rows 16-19: k

Cut Bold Red and
join in Vibrant
Orange, work in
two-row stripe
sequence of

Vibrant Orange,
Rich Plum, as folls:

Rows 20-31: beg
with a k row work
in st st

Cast off

jumper

Using 3.75mm
needles and Bright
Yellow cast on
20 sts

Rows 1-6: beg with
a k (RS) row work
in st st

Row 7: (k3, kfb) to
end. 25 sts

Row 8: p

Row 9: (k4, kfb) to
end. 30 sts

Rows 10-12: cont
in st st

Row 13: (k5, kfb)
to end. 35 sts

Rows 14-16: cont
in st st

Row 17: (k6, kfb)
to end. 40 sts

Rows 18-20: cont
in st st

Row 21: (k7, kfb)
to end. 45 sts

Rows 22-26: cont
in st st

Cast off

sleeve

Make two

Using 3.75mm
needles and Bright
Yellow cast on
seven sts

Rows 1-19: beg
with a k (RS) row
work in st st

Row 20: k

Change to
Vibrant Orange

Rows 21-25: beg
with a k row work

in st st

Row 26: p1, (p2tog) three times.

Four sts

Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

tail

Using 3.75mm needles and Rich Plum cast on seven sts

Row 1 (RS): k

Row 2: p

Join in Vibrant Orange, work in two-row stripe sequence of Vibrant Orange, Rich Plum, as folls:

Rows 3-32: beg with a k row work in st st

Cont in Vibrant Orange only

Rows 33-36: cont in st st

Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

dungarees

Make two

Using 3.75mm needles and Soft Violet cast on 25 sts

Rows 1-3: k

Rows 4-15: beg with a k (RS) row work in st st

Row 16: k1, (k2tog) to end. 13 sts

Rows 17-18: cast

on two sts, k to end. 17 sts

Row 19: k

Cast off

dungarees strap

Make two

Using 3.75mm needles and Soft

Violet cast on 25 sts

Rows 1-2: k

Cast off

to make up

Seam row edges of Body and stuff firmly. Gather cast-off sts, pull

up tightly and fasten off. Seam row edges of Head, leaving a gap for stuffing. Insert safety eyes above increase shaping for Snout. Stuff firmly, filling out shape of

Snout. Sew Head to top of Body. Sew Nose to end of Snout. Using Rich Plum, embroider mouth below nose, and stripes on top and sides of Head, leaving space for



Did you know?

A TIGER'S ROAR CAN BE HEARD UP TO THREE KILOMETRES AWAY!

Ears. Sew row edges of Ears to either side of Head. Join row edges of each Leg. Oversew across cast-on sts. Stuff Legs firmly and sew to base of Body. Place Jumper on Body and join row edges. Let cast-on edge of collar roll down around neck. Seam row edges of each Sleeve, stuffing as you go. Oversew cast-on sts and sew Sleeves to sides of Body, taking care to st through both Jumper and Body. Seam row edges of Tail, stuffing lightly as you go. Sew to back of Body just below Jumper. Sew row edges of Dungarees pieces tog from cast-on edge to cast-on sts on Rows 17-18, leaving a gap in back seam for Tail to fit through. Seam row edges of each Leg section. Place on Tiger. Sew row ends of each Strap to front of Dungarees, cross over shoulders and sew other end to back. Weave in all ends

Run out of yarn?

TRY STYLECRAFT SPECIAL DK, RRP: £2.55 PER 100G (295M), VISIT STYLECRAFT-YARNS.CO.UK FOR STOCKISTS



CITRON



RASPBERRY



SPICE



TOMATO



WISTERIA



Snap happy

Brighten up the nursery with our cute photo-frame caterpillar

Little ones will find this simple crocheted make doubly delightful – not only is it a cheery critter to hang on the wall, but it can also be used to display photos of loved ones. Designed by **HEATHER GIBBS**, this quirky frame is made up mostly of easy circles. Add as many body segments as you like for the option to display more snaps!

PLUS
stitch markers, tapestry needle, two 10mm kawaii safety eyes, small amount of white thread, short length of string, six 9cm diameter circles of corrugated cardboard, four 8.5cm diameter circles of polypropylene

SIZE
Circles: 9cm diameter



Take the next step

CATERPILLAR

Note: sections are worked without joining in continuous rnds. Place st marker in top of first st to mark start of rnd

tail

Using 3.75mm hook and Bright Yellow make a magic ring, work 6dc into ring. Six sts
Rnd 1: 2dc in each st to end. 12 sts
Rnd 2: (1dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 18 sts
Rnd 3: (2dc, 2dc in

next st) to end. 24 sts

Rnd 4: (3dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 30 sts

Rnd 5: (4dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 36 sts

Rnd 6: (5dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 42 sts

Rnd 7: 3dc, (6dc, 2dc in next st) five times, 3dc, 2dc in next st. 48 sts

Rnds 8-9: 1dc in each st to end. Insert cardboard circle into centre of work and cont to work around it until enclosed as folls:

Rnd 10: (6dc, dc2tog) to end. 42 sts

Rnd 11: (5dc, dc2tog) to end. 36 sts

Rnd 12: (4dc, dc2tog) to end. 30 sts

Rnd 13: (3dc, dc2tog) to end.

24 sts

Rnd 14: (2dc, dc2tog) to end. 18 sts

Rnd 15: (1dc, dc2tog) to end. 12 sts

Rnd 16: (dc2tog) to end. Six sts. Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

head

Using 3.75mm hook and Rich Plum make a magic ring, work 6dc into ring. Six sts
Rnds 1-7: work as for Tail. Add safety eyes between Rnds 5-6, at least five sts apart. Using white thread add a smile over Rnds 3-5 and over four to five sts. Add eyebrows at least one st

above each eye between Rnds 5-6, at least five sts apart. Complete as for Tail

antenna

Make two

Using 3.75mm hook and Bright Yellow make a magic ring, work 6dc into ring. Six sts

Rnds 1-8: 1dc in each st to end. Fasten off leaving a long tail

body segment

Make four

Using 3.75mm hook and Purple Mix (Soft Violet, Bold Red, Vibrant Orange) make a magic ring, work 6dc into ring. Six sts
Rnds 1-12: work as for Tail. 30 sts. Fasten off

leg

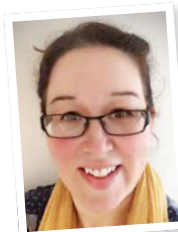
Make 12

Using 3.75mm hook and Rich Plum make 9ch
Note: 3ch at beg of row counts as first tr
Row 1: beg in fourth ch from

hook, 4tr in next st, remove hook and insert in top of first tr, then insert hook in top of fifth tr, yoh, pull through both loops on hook, 1dc in each st to end. Fasten off, leaving a tail

to make up

Stitch antennae to front of Head. Attach Body Segments together with short length of corresponding yarn, using photo as a guide for shape. Attach Head to one end and Tail to other. Sew Legs to Body and Tail Segments, using photo as a guide. Sew hanging loop string to Head and Tail. Insert photo into each Body Segment and finish with a layer of polypropylene or thin plastic on top



"The technique used to make the bobble feet is known as Popcorn Stitch!"

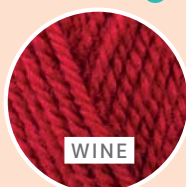
HEATHER GIBBS,
DESIGNER

Run out of yarn?

TRY KING COLE BIG VALUE DK, £1.19 PER 50G BALL FROM **WOOLWAREHOUSE.CO.UK**



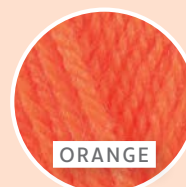
VIOLET



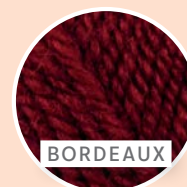
WINE



YELLOW



ORANGE



BORDEAUX

TOP TIP

CUT UP A PLASTIC STATIONERY WALLET TO USE AS A TOP LAYER INSIDE EACH CIRCLE TO PROTECT YOUR SNAPS



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PLUS
tapestry
needle, small
length of dark
brown 4ply,
stuffing, two
6mm black eye
beads, black
thread,
bamboo
skewer,
masking tape,
liquid glue,
small amount
of 4mm balsa
wood sheet,
Velcro, felt,
craft knife

SIZE
Height: 18cm

Picasso the fox

He's the perfect companion for us creative types!



Perfect for
beginners

PICASSO THE FOX body

Using 3.75mm
needles and
Vibrant Orange
cast on ten sts
Row 1 and every

odd-numbered

row (WS): p
Row 2: (kfb) to
end. 20 sts
Row 4: (k1, kfb) to
end. 30 sts
Row 6: (k2, kfb) to
end. 40 sts
Note: colour in
brackets foll
instruction
indicates which
yarn to use
Row 8: k10
(Vibrant Orange),
k20 (Bright
Yellow), k to end
(Vibrant Orange)
Note: keep
colours correct
as set
Rows 9-13: beg
with a p row work
in st st
Row 14: (k2, k2tog)
to end. 30 sts
Rows 15-19: cont
in st st
Row 20: (k2tog, k1)
to end. 20 sts
Rows 21-26: cont
in st st
Cast off

head

Using 3.75mm
needles and
Vibrant Orange
cast on ten sts

Rows 1-7: rep
Rows 1-7 of Body.
40 sts
Row 8: (k3, kfb) to
end. 50 sts
Rows 9-17: beg
with a p row work
in st st
Row 18: (k3, k2tog)
to end. 40 sts
Row 19: p
Row 20: (k2,
k2tog) to end.
30 sts
Row 21: p
Row 22: k5,
(k2tog) ten times,
k to end. 20 sts
Row 23: p
Change to Bright
Yellow
Row 24: k6,
(k2tog) four times,
k to end. 16 sts
Row 26: k4,
(k2tog) four times,
k to end. 12 sts
Row 27: p
Cut yarn leaving a
tail, thread
through rem sts,
pull tight and
fasten off

arm

Make two
Using 3.75mm
needles and
Vibrant Orange

cast on ten sts
Note: change to
Rich Plum after
Row 3
Rows 1-12: beg
with a p row work
in st st
Cut yarn leaving a
tail, thread
through rem sts,
pull tight and
fasten off

boot & leg

Make two
Using 3.75mm
needles and Soft
Violet cast on
eight sts
Row 1 (WS): p
Row 2: (kfb) to
end. 16 sts
Row 3: p
Row 4: k
**Row 5 (boot
edge):** k
Rows 6-9: beg
with a k row work
in st st
**Row 10 (shape
ankle):** k5, (k2tog)
three times, k to
end. 13 sts
Row 11: p
Row 12: k5, k3tog,
k to end. 11 sts
Rows 13-15: rep
Rows 3-5
Change to Vibrant

Orange
Row 16: k
Row 17: p
Row 18: k
Cast off

ear

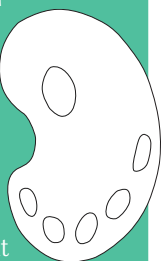
Make two
Using 3.75mm
needles and
Vibrant Orange
cast on 16 sts
Row 1: p
Row 2: k
Row 3: p
Row 4: (k2, k2tog)
to end. 12 sts
Row 5: p
Change to
Rich Plum
Row 6: (k1, k2tog)
to end. Eight sts
Row 7: (p2tog) to
end. Four sts
Cut yarn leaving a
tail, thread
through rem sts,
pull tight and
fasten off

tail

Using 3.75mm
needles and
Vibrant Orange
cast on 14 sts
Row 1: p
Row 2: k
Row 3: p
Row 4: k2, (kfb, k2)

MAKE THE PALETTE AND PAINTBRUSH

- ★ Use our template as a guide to cut the shape from a sheet of balsa wood – you can use scissors or a craft knife.
- ★ Trim little circles of different coloured felt and glue onto the palette.
- ★ Attach Velcro to the back of the palette, then add some to the fox's arm and secure.
- ★ Wind Bright Yellow yarn around two fingers six times and tie one end to a wooden skewer, cut to 6cm.
- ★ Cover the join with masking tape. Snip the loops and separate the yarn strands.
- ★ Wet the tip of the yarn with liquid glue to shape, then insert into the fox's other arm.







to end. 18 sts
Rows 5-7: rep
 Rows 1-3
 Change to
 Bright Yellow
Rows 8-13: beg
 with a k row work
 in st st
Row 14: (k1, k2tog)
 to end. 12 sts
Row 15: p
Row 16: (k2tog)
 to end. Six sts
 Cut yarn leaving a
 tail, thread
 through rem sts,
 pull tight and
 fasten off

hat

Using 3.75mm
 needles and
 Purple Mix cast
 on ten sts
Row 1 (WS): p
Row 2: (kfb) to
 end. 20 sts
Rows 3-7: beg
 with a p row work
 in st st
Row 8: (k2tog)

to end. Ten sts
 Cut yarn leaving a
 tail, thread
 through rem sts,
 pull tight and
 fasten off

to make up

Using fastened-off
 tail, sew Head
 halfway. With
 cast-on tail, work
 gathering thread
 around cast-on
 edge and draw
 tightly. Stuff Head,
 leaving a small
 opening. Using
 Bright Yellow,
 work gathering
 thread around

first row of Bright
 Yellow to shape
 muzzle. Seam
 Ears. With Ear
 seam facing
 forwards, attach
 to Head. Insert
 safety eyes. Using
 dark brown 4ply,
 embroider nose
 and mouth with
 backstitch. Sew up
 rem seam on
 Head. Using
 cast-on tail of
 Body, work
 gathering thread
 along cast-on
 edge and draw
 tightly. Seam Body
 to cast-off edge

and stuff. With
 fastened-off tail,
 seam Arm to
 cast-off edge and
 stuff. Fold Leg in
 half lengthwise
 and work
 gathering thread
 around cast-on
 edge. Sew rest
 of Leg seam to
 cast-off edge and
 stuff. Using Soft
 Violet, pierce Boot
 from sole, take
 needle out from
 ankle and rep.
 Pull thread to
 flatten sole and
 shape ankle.
 Seam Tail and

stuff. Attach Head,
 Arms, Legs and
 Tail to Body. Seam
 Hat. Using Purple
 Mix and hook

make 2ch, fasten
 off, attach to tip
 of Hat. Sew Hat
 to Head. Weave
 in all ends



*"Balsa wood is widely available
 from craft shops but if you can't
 find it, cut out two pieces of felt
 fabric using the template and glue
 them together instead"*

SACHIYO ISHII, DESIGNER

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All about you

You really are a talented bunch!

You're obsessed with... charity makes



TEE-RIFIC MAKES

I knit as a hobby but love to sell my projects to raise money for charity. In the last couple of years I have been supporting the MND association and recently finished some golf club covers which raised over £250 for the cause.

Sandra Morgan



PATCHWORK PAL

We had our monthly meet up recently with our knit and crochet groups, with a side of sewing. What we make we donate. I fell in love with this crocheted animal made by one of our members. It will go to Ronald McDonald House in Newcastle, Australia.

Stephenie Milne



SWEET DREAMS

I crochet blankets for the local hospital, Darent Valley in Dartford, for the elderly patients in the dementia ward. The bright blankets are kept on their beds so they can easily spot their own and it stops them from getting disorientated.

Kim Harvey-Nash



I've managed to finish my Jean mouse thanks to your very helpful explanation. Although not perfect – I couldn't quite manage to get the ears, mouth and nose like Jean and think that mine looks more like a Jimmy – I'm feeling happy and satisfied that I've been able to complete my little mouse project as requested by my daughter before the birth of her baby.

Helen Tyas

💎 We think your Jimmy is absolutely perfect, Helen!

My grandad Ron Jeal made these hats for charity and has always made everyone in the family huge crocheted blankets. He will be 87 this month! In the past few years he's made items for Medway Hospital's baby unit and now he is making hats for Hungry Hearts for the Homeless. He doesn't mention any of it to anyone, just quietly gets on with all these things – amazing man. It's easy to see how the crafting bug hit me!

Kayleigh Skinner

💎 What a wonderful grandad you have, Kayleigh!



In the summer of 2016, I made every square of this Attic 24 Summer Harmony blanket in Section 323, Row 5, Seat 6 at Comerica Park, Michigan, the home of Major League Baseball's Detroit Tigers. I had season tickets and took my crochet with

me to every game. I assembled the blanket and added the border at home, but other than that, all squares were made at the stadium while watching my favourite professional baseball team.

Maureen Carter

💎 We love that your memories of the games are bound up in this beautiful blanket, Maureen.

"I've been able to complete my little mouse project as requested by my daughter before the birth of her baby."



What's your go-to snack when crafting?

.....

"Dairy Milk chocolate"

@patemanchevonne



"Always picky bits! Crisps, a square or two of chocolate, other bits always with tea"

@happy_with_hooks



"Jaffa cakes"

@the_wool_shed



"Cashew nuts: no crumbs or sticky fingers!"

@madewithloveandfibres



"Tea & biscuits or a cheese toasty!"

@se16_crafters



"I eat M&Ms when knitting and reward myself with one when I complete a row"

Adrienne Chandler

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SOME LIKE IT HOT

Stitchers will love these nifty sewing tools from Clover, brand new this February! The heat-resistant Hot Hemmers allow you to create sharp, accurate crease lines as you press seams and hems using a dry or steam iron. Three lucky winners will receive a bundle worth more than £70 that includes a Hot Hemmer square and ruler, plus a Hold It Precision Stiletto perfect for keeping your fabric in place when machine sewing or pressing. For stockists, contact clover@stockistenquiries.co.uk



THREE BAGS FULL

Win a reversible knitting bag from Hobbygift, along with a set of needles to slot inside! These sturdy bags are perfect for storing yarn, projects and pins, and they can fully unzip and open out flat for easy access to all your crafty tools. And we're throwing in a set of Pony needles in an eco-friendly Just Jute case too! We've got six bag and needle bundles up for grabs. For stockists of both products, contact groves@stockistenquiries.co.uk



TRY SOMETHING NEW!



CLAY CREATIONS

Venture into the world of pottery this new year! Pott'd is an at-home kit that includes clay, paintbrushes, paint and handy how-to guides, which can be used to make everything from mugs to plant pots to vases – and much more. Plus, all your creations air-dry at home without the need for a pottery wheel or kiln. Enter now for your chance to win one of seven kits! To find out more about Pott'd, visit pottdpeople.com



FUTURE FASHIONISTAS

Design your dream wedding dress with the Harumika Bridal Gown and Candy Wedding Sets. Featuring elegant satins, delicate lace and pretty pastels, the award-winning kit allows budding designers age 6+ to create their very own bespoke dresses! Just choose a fabric, wrap it around the torso and secure it using the stylus tool before customising your design with the decorative pins. No sewing, scissors or glue required! Plus, all materials and accessories are reusable providing hours of creative fun! Available at amazon.co.uk

YARN, GLORIOUS YARN

Win 15 scrumptious balls of West Yorkshire Spinners Retreat Super Chunky Roving yarn, plus the fantastic 'Knit. Flow. Grow' pattern book! You're sure to find something you adore in this collection of ten garment, home and accessory designs by Chloé Elizabeth Birch. The yarns themselves are made from luxurious 100% Bluefaced Kerry Hill wool – you're going to love them! Available at wyspinners.com



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CLOSING DATE: 23RD MARCH 2023

Snail buddies

Brighten your day with a sweet set of garden chums

USE ALL
SIX
YARN
COLOURS!



USING YOUR

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YARN KIT



PROJECT
OVERLEAF





PLUS

stitch markers, tapestry needle, safety toy stuffing, six 8mm safety eyes, small amount of black embroidery thread

SIZE

Larger snails: 10cm tall, 11cm long
Small snail: 8.5cm tall, 8.5cm long



Take the next step

LARGE SNAIL head

Make two

Using 3.75mm hook and Soft Violet (Bright Yellow) make a magic ring, work 6dc into ring.

Six sts

Rnd 1: 2dc in each st to end. 12 sts

Rnd 2: (1dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 18 sts

Rnds 3-7: 1dc in each st to end

Rnd 8: (1dc, dc2tog) to end.

This colourful trio by **HEATHER GIBBS** is a cheery sight. All six colours from your Artsy kit have been used to make them, and if you fancy extending the gang there are plenty more shade combos to try. Take note that all the stitches on the shells are worked in the back loop only to create a different texture.

12 sts

Rnd 9: (4dc, dc2tog) to end.

Ten sts

Insert safety eyes between Rnds 5-6, at least two sts apart

Rnds 10-14: 1dc in each st to end

Fasten off, leaving a long tail

Using black thread

embroider mouth over Rnd 8

antenna

Make four (two in each colour)

Using 3.75mm hook and Soft Violet (Bright Yellow) make 6ch

Row 1: sl st in second ch from hook, sl st in each st to end

Fasten off, leaving a long tail

body

Make two

Note: worked from front to back

Using 3.75mm

hook and Soft

Violet (Bright

Yellow) make a

magic ring, work 5dc into ring.

Five sts

Rnd 1: 2dc in each st to end. Ten sts

Rnds 2-14: 1dc in each st to end

Stuff as you go

Rnd 15: (3dc, dc2tog) to end.

Eight sts

Rnd 16: (2dc, dc2tog) to end.

Six sts

Cut yarn leaving a long tail, thread

through rem sts, pull tight and

fasten off

body frill

Make two

Using 3.75mm

hook and Soft

Violet (Bright

Yellow) make

40ch, taking care

not to twist sts

join with a sl st to

first ch to make

a ring

Rnd 1: 3dc in each st to end, join with

a sl st to first st

Fasten off, leaving

a long tail

shell bottom

Make two

Using 3.75mm

hook and Rich

Plum (Bold Red)

make a magic ring, work 6dc into ring.

Six sts

Note: work in BLO throughout

Rnd 1: 2dc in each st to end. 12 sts

Rnd 2: (1dc, 2dc in next st) to end.

18 sts

Rnd 3: (2dc, 2dc in next st) to end.

24 sts

Rnd 4: (3dc, 2dc in next st) to end.

30 sts

Rnds 5-9: 1dc in each st to end

Stuff as you go

Rnd 10: (3dc, dc2tog) to end.

24 sts

Rnd 11: (2dc, dc2tog) to end.

18 sts

Rnd 12: (1dc, dc2tog) to end.

12 sts

Rnd 13: (dc2tog) to end. Six sts

Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread

through rem sts, pull tight and

fasten off

shell top

Make two

Using 3.75mm

hook and Rich

Plum (Bold Red)

make a magic ring, work 6dc into ring.

Six sts

Rnds 1-2: work as for Shell Bottom.

18 sts

Rnds 3-6: 1dc in each st to end

Fasten off, leaving a long tail

SMALL SNAIL head

Using 3.75mm

hook and Vibrant

Orange make a

magic ring, work

5dc into ring.

Five sts





TOP TIP

EACH SECTION IS WORKED IN CONTINUOUS ROUNDS, SO PLACE THE STITCH MARKER IN THE TOP OF THE FIRST STITCH TO MARK THE START OF THE ROUND

Rnd 1: 2dc in each st to end. Ten sts

Rnd 2: (1dc, 2dc in each st) to end. 15 sts

Rnds 3-6: 1dc in each st to end

Rnd 7: (1dc, dc2tog). Ten sts
Insert safety eyes between Rnds 5-6, at least two sts apart

Rnds 8-11: 1dc in each st to end
Fasten off, leaving a long tail
Using black thread embroider mouth over Rnd 7

antenna

Make two

Using 3.75mm hook and Vibrant Orange make 5ch
Row 1: sl st in

second ch from hook, sl st in each st to end
Fasten off, leaving a long tail

body

Note: worked from front to back
Using 3.75mm hook and Vibrant Orange make a magic ring, work 5dc into ring. Five sts

Rnd 1: 2dc in each st to end. Ten sts

Rnds 2-11: 1dc in each st to end

Stuff as you go
Rnd 12: (3dc, dc2tog) to end. Eight sts

Rnd 13: (2dc, dc2tog) to end. Six sts

Cut yarn leaving a

tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

body frill

Using 3.75mm hook and Vibrant Orange make 26ch, join with a sl st to first ch

Rnd 1: 3dc in each st to end, join with a sl st to first st
Fasten off, leaving a long tail

shell bottom

Using 3.75mm hook and Purple Mix make a magic ring, work 6dc into ring. Six sts

Note: work in BLO throughout

Rnd 1: 2dc in each st to end. 12sts

Rnd 2: (1dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 18 sts

Rnd 3: (2dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 24 sts

Rnds 4-7: 1dc in

each st to end
Stuff as you go

Rnd 8: (2dc, dc2tog). 18 sts

Rnd 9: (1dc, dc2tog). 12 sts

Rnd 10: dc2tog to end. Six sts
Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread through rem sts and fasten off

shell top

Using 3.75mm hook and Purple Mix make a magic ring, work 8dc into ring. Eight sts

Note: work in BLO throughout

Rnd 1: 2dc in each st to end. 16 sts

Rnds 2-4: 1dc in each st to end
Fasten off, leaving a long tail

to make up

Stuff Head. Attach Antennae to top of Head and Head to front of Body. Place Snail on

table and fit Body Frill round bottom of Body so it undulates evenly all round using picture as guide. St Body Frill in place.

Stuff Shell Top and attach to centre of Shell Bottom. Sew completed Shell to Body close behind Head. Weave in all ends

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PLUS

two 3.75mm double-pointed needles, stuffing, two green safety eyes, small amount of black DK, tapestry needle

SIZE

19cm x 20cm



BUTTERFLY head

Using 3.75mm needles and Bright Yellow cast on six sts
Row 1 (RS): (kfb) to end. 12 sts
Row 2: p
Row 3: as Row 1.

24 sts
Rows 4-14: beg with a p (WS) row work in st st
Row 15: (k2tog) to end. 12 sts
Row 16: p
Row 17: as Row 15. Six sts
 Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

body

Using 3.75mm needles and Soft Violet cast on six sts
Rows 1-3: work as

for Rows 1-3 of Head. 24 sts
Row 4 (WS): p
Row 5: (k2, kfb) to end. 32 sts
Rows 6-12: beg with a p row work in st st
Row 13: (k2tog) to end. 16 sts
Rows 14-16: cont in st st
Row 17: (k1, kfb) to end. 24 sts
Rows 18-24: cont in st st
Row 25: k4, (k2tog, k3) to end. 20 sts
Rows 26-28: cont in st st
Row 29: (k3, k2tog) to end. 16 sts

Row 30 and every even-numbered row: p

Row 31: (k2, k2tog) to end. 12 sts
Row 33: (k1, k2tog) to end. Eight sts
Row 35: (k2tog) to end. Four sts
 Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

top wing

Make four
 Using 3.75mm

needles and Bold Red cast on four sts
Row 1 (WS): p
Row 2: k1, m1, k to last st, m1, k1. Six sts
Row 3: p
Rows 4-19: rep Rows 2-3. 22 sts
Rows 20-23: beg with a k (RS) row work in st st
Row 24: k2tog, k to last two sts, k2tog. 20 sts
Row 25: p2tog, p to last two sts, p2tog. 18 sts
Rows 26-31: rep Rows 24-25 three times more. Six sts
Row 32: as Row 24. Four sts
Row 33: (p2tog) twice. Two sts
Row 34: k2tog. One st
 Fasten off

bottom wing

Make four
 Using 3.75mm needles and Rich Plum cast on four sts
Row 1 (WS): p
Row 2: k1, m1, k to last st, m1, k1. Six sts
Row 3: p

Rows 4-15: rep Rows 2-3 six times more. 18 sts
Rows 16-19: beg with a k (RS) row work in st st
Row 20: k2tog, k to last two sts, k2tog. 16 sts
Row 21: p2tog, p to last two sts, p2tog. 14 sts
Rows 22-25: rep Rows 20-21 twice more. Six sts
Row 26: as Row 20. Four sts
Row 27: (p2tog) twice. Two sts
Row 28: k2tog. One st
 Fasten off

body band

Using 3.75mm needles and Bold Red cast on 17 sts
Row 1: k
Row 2: p
 Cast off

antenna

Make two
 Using 3.75mm dpns and Bold Red cast on three sts
 Work an i-cord (see Great Advice) until work meas 2cm

Inc row: (kfb) to end. Six sts
Next row: k
 Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

small flower

Make two
 Using 3.75mm needles and Vibrant Orange cast on 12 sts
Row 1: k
Row 2: p
Row 3: (k2tog) to end. Six sts
 Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

large flower

Make two
 Using 3.75mm needles and Purple Mix cast on 20 sts
Rows 1-3: beg with a k (RS) row work in st st
Row 4: (p2tog) to end. Ten sts
Row 5: (k2tog) to end. Five sts
 Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread through rem sts,

Julia the butterfly

Take flight with our fabulous, fluttering friend

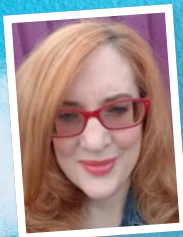
Of all the insects that visit our gardens, butterflies are surely among the most loved, and this winged beauty by **NICOLA VALIJI** will have you soaring to new heights! Using all six colours in your yarn kit, you'll be able to knit up a colourful critter just as worthy of admiration as any painted lady or magnificent monarch – just look at those decorative floral details on Julia's wings!



GREAT ADVICE

I-cords are quick to knit using double-pointed needles. Cast on the required number of stitches and knit one row, but do not turn your work. Instead, slide the stitches to the other end of the needle, pulling the yarn across the back of the work, then knit another row. Repeat until the i-cord is the desired length, then cast off. If you don't have dpns, you can knit i-cords using straight needles by slipping the worked stitches on the right-hand needle back on to the left-hand needle, ready to knit again





"This butterfly could be attached to a fence to brighten up a garden on a dull day."

NICOLA VALIJI, DESIGNER



TOP TIP

PLACING A SMALL AMOUNT OF STUFFING INTO THE WINGS WILL MAKE THEM FIRMER SO THEY HOLD THEIR SHAPE. LEAVE IT OUT IF YOU'D PREFER MORE MOVEMENT IN YOUR BUTTERFLY'S WINGS

pull tight and fasten off

to make up

Sew down row edges of Body to cast-on edge on WS. Turn RS out and stuff. Gather cast-on sts, pull tight and fasten

off. Using Bright Yellow, embroider small dots on Body Band. Place Body Band around Body and join row edges at back. Sew down row edges of Head to cast-on edge on WS to make a ball

shape. Turn RS out, insert safety eyes, stuff and close gap. Using Bold Red embroider mouth. Secure yarn inside each Antenna and sew to top of Head. Sew Head to Body. Using Bold Red, tie a bow at neck. All Wings have identical front and back and are made up in same way. Sew fronts and backs tog on WS around edges leaving a gap. Turn RS out, place a small amount of stuffing inside and

close gap. Attach Top Wings and Bottom Wings to Body. Sew down row edges of Small and Large Flowers to cast-on edge to form circles. Using Bright Yellow embroider a bud to middle of each Flower. Sew Small Flowers to Bottom Wings and Large Flowers to Top Wings. Using Bright Yellow embroider petals around Flowers using two rows of back st. Weave in all ends

Love THIS PATTERN?



INVITE MORE FRIENDS INTO YOUR AMIGURUMI GARDEN WITH THESE CROCHET CRITTERS, AVAILABLE FOR FREE AT TOPCROCHETPATTERNS.COM



PLUS
stitch markers,
tapestry
needle,
stuffing, two
6mm safety
eyes, one 9mm
black cat
safety nose,
black
embroidery
thread

SIZE
Height: 20.5cm

Marmalade the cat

This well-dressed crocheted chum can be whipped up with ease!

So dapper in his bow tie, Marmalade is a perfect project for crochet newbies, with only basic crochet stitches needed to make him. Our designer **HEATHER GIBBS** has given him a big ol' grin and a cat-specific safety nose, both of which really add to his charm. Once you've made him, why not download your free bonus pattern booklet and use your leftover variegated yarn to craft a fringed feather? Find the details on page 57.



Perfect for
beginners

MARMALADE THE CAT head

Using 3.75mm hook and Vibrant Orange make a magic ring, work

6dc into ring.

Six sts

Rnd 1: 2dc in each st to end. 12 sts

Rnd 2: (1dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 18 sts

Rnd 3: (2dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 24 sts

Rnd 4: (3dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 30 sts

Rnds 5-10: 1dc in each st to end

Rnd 11: (3dc, dc2tog) to end. 24 sts

Rnd 12: (2dc, dc2tog) to end. 18 sts

Rnd 13: (1dc, dc2tog) to end. 12 sts

Fasten off, leaving a long tail

ear

Make two

Using 3.75mm hook and Vibrant Orange make a magic ring, work 3dc into ring. Three sts

Rnd 1: 2dc in each st to end. Six sts

Rnd 2: (2dc, 2dc in next st) to end. Eight sts
Fasten off, leaving a long tail

each st around first Leg, 1dc in each of next 2ch, 1dc in each st around second Leg, 1dc in opposite side of next 2ch. 28 sts

Rnd 12: 5dc, 2dc in next st, 13dc, 2dc in next st to end. 30 sts
Stuff

Rnd 13: 1dc in each st to end

Rnd 14: (3dc, dc2tog) to end. 24 sts

Note: change to Rich Plum after Rnd 17

Rnds 15-22: 1dc in each st to end

Note: stuff as you go

Rnds 23-24: rep Rnds 12-13 of Head. 12 sts

Rnd 25: (dc2tog) to end. Six sts
Fasten off

dungaree top

Make two

Using 3.75mm hook and Bold Red make 8ch

Row 1: beg in second ch from

hook, 1dc in each st to end, turn. Seven sts

Rows 2-4: (1ch, 1dc) in next st, 1dc in each st to end, turn
Fasten off, leaving a long tail

dungaree strap

Make two

Using 3.75mm hook and Bold Red make 8ch
Row 1: rep Row 1 of Dungaree Top. Seven sts
Fasten off, leaving a long tail

arm

Make two

Note: stuff as you go, leaving upper half unstuffed
Using 3.75mm hook and Bright Yellow make a magic ring, work 6dc into ring. Six sts

Rnd 1: 2dc in each st to end. 12 sts

Note: change to Rich Plum after Rnd 3

Rnds 2-11: 1dc in

legs & body

* Using 3.75mm hook and Bright Yellow make a magic ring, work 8dc into ring. Eight sts

Rnd 1: 2dc in each st to end. 16 sts

Rnds 2-4: 1dc in each st to end

Rnd 5: (2dc, dc2tog) to end. 12 sts

Change to Bold Red

Rnds 6-10: 1dc in each st to end *
Fasten off

Rep from * to * once, then crochet Legs tog as folls:

Rnd 11: 2ch, 1dc in



each st to end
Fasten off, leaving
a long tail

tail

Using 3.75mm
hook and Bright
Orange make a
magic ring, work
6dc into ring.
Six sts

Rnds 1-11: 1dc in
each st to end
Fasten off, leaving
a long tail

bow tie

Using 3.75mm
hook and Soft
Violet make 8ch

Rows 1-3: rep
Rows 1-3 of
Dungaree Top.
Seven sts
Fasten off

to make up

Insert safety eyes
between Rnds 4-5
of Head, approx
four sts apart.
Insert safety nose
between eyes on
Rnds 6-7. Using
black embroidery
thread embroider
mouth. Stuff Head.
Sew Ears to Head.
Sew Body closed.
Sew Head and
Arms to Body. Sew
Dungaree Tops to
front and back of
Body. Attach
Dungaree Straps
to top of
Dungaree Tops on
each side to join.
Wrap Soft Violet
around middle of
Bow Tie to create
centre knot and
secure. Sew Bow
Tie and Tail to
Body. Weave in
all ends

TOP TIP

IF THERE'S ANY
GAPPING IN YOUR
WORK, PLACE
STUFFING INSIDE A
PAIR OF TIGHTS TO
ENSURE IT WON'T
WORK ITS WAY
THROUGH





JOIN OUR PATCHWORK BLANKET KAL

Sign up as an annual member for £59.99 and get
a FREE 1,700g Aran Yarn Bundle worth £40!*

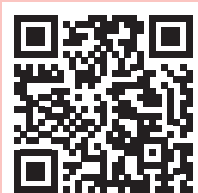
**HURRY
LIMITED
STOCK**



*T+C: Only available while stocks last. See website for full details.

Your free yarn is perfect for knitting our
Patchwork Blanket. Snuggle up and get
ready to cast on with the rest of the club.

Scan Me



Join now: letsknit.co.uk/patchwork

24 WAYS TO SAVE

We're all feeling the pinch at the moment, with energy costs through the roof and inflation doing its level best to burn a hole in our pockets. But there's no way we're going to let that stop us crafting! Read on for our genius tips and tricks for crafting on a budget, from toy stuffing swaps to online shopping hacks, plus a special treat on page 33 to save you plenty of pennies... you can thank us later!



1

Don't cut your tension square! Make the most of your yarn by unravelling it and using it again.



2

Repurpose your long-abandoned UFOs. If you'd forgotten you had it, you're probably not going to finish it. Frog it and use the yarn for something new!



3

Store your yarn safely. Don't let it get tangled and end up having to cut it free from knots - wasting yarn this way is the worst!



4

Swap your stash. Get together with a friend and trade your unwanted yarn for theirs - new yarn, no cost! There are also plenty of Facebook groups you can join that enable yarn swaps with other crafters, such as Yarn Exchange UK.

5

If you're a prolific toymaker, consider buying cheap cushion inserts instead of actual toy stuffing. Cut them open and use the filler inside - it's the same stuff, and you'll be able to get more for your money this way. You can find a 41cm square cushion inner for £2.50 from wilko.com



6

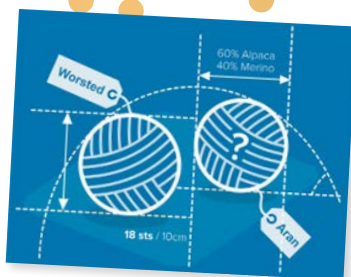
Take a look in charity shops, car boot sales, and second-hand shopping apps like Vinted for cheap knitted jumpers and blankets - then repurpose the yarn. Un-pick any seams, then unravel each piece before winding the yarn into a hank and letting it soak in lukewarm water with



some washing detergent. This will both clean the yarn and remove any kinks so that it's easier to knit with. Leave to dry, then cast on!

7

If you've fallen in love with a pattern but it uses a super pricey yarn, **yarnsub.com** is your friend. This handy website compares the texture, gauge, fibre content, colour styles and other qualities of similar yarns, and recommends the best substitutes for you, so you can choose one within your own budget.



8

Air your woollen knits rather than machine washing them where you can. Wool is naturally antibacterial so doesn't actually need washing as often as you might think. In fact, frequent washing wears clothing out quicker, so you'll protect your favourite jumper for longer as well as saving on energy costs.

9

Visit your local yarn shop rather than shopping online. Not only will you avoid postage fees, but having a good feel of the yarn and chatting with the experts in store will help you walk away with exactly what you need, with no nasty surprises. For example, something might look cloud-soft on the screen, but turn out to be far too scratchy for that hat you had in mind upon delivery. We find rubbing the yarn under your chin or on your inner forearm is the perfect test for tickly fibres!



10

Many libraries have large collections of knitting and crochet pattern books. And of course, the wonderful thing about libraries is that they're completely free! Head on down to your local and make the most of what it has to offer.



11

When shopping online, there's an old trick... Add all the things you want to your order, but stop before you check out and leave it for a day or two. Often, companies will send you discount codes to tempt you back. It's not guaranteed, but it's certainly worth a shot!

12

Find the freebies! Most pattern houses will release one or two freebies with each new yarn or booklet - snap them up! And of course, **topcrochetpatterns.com** is full of our very own amazing free crochet patterns!



SHARING IS CARING!

We asked you to share some of your top tips for crafting for less.

13 "SAVE ALL THE PATTERNS YOU LIKE AND BUY THEM ONLY WHEN THEY GO ON SALE."

@the.yarnicorn

14 "I KEEP ALL MY TAIL ENDS AND YARN CUT OFFS TO USE TO STUFF LITTLE AMIGURUMI TOYS FOR MY KIDS. IT WORKS LIKE A DREAM 😊"

@off_the_hook_creative

15 "I KEEP ALL THE BALL ENDS FOR FAIR ISLE AND INTARZIA, SORT THEM INTO FREEZER BAGS OF SIMILAR COLOURS AND WHEN I WANT TO DO A KIDDIES' JUMPER, I JUST GO AND PICK A BAG OUT OF THE STASH TO GO WITH THE MAIN COLOUR 😊"

@richardsknits

16 "CHECK LOCAL CHARITY SHOPS. THEY EITHER HAVE DONATED YARN TO SELL OR WILL SELL THEIR OWN YARN, WHICH TENDS TO BE QUITE CHEAP."

@kalinkakotki

17 "DEFINITELY BUYING THINGS OUT OF SEASON, E.G BUY CHRISTMAS SUPPLIES IN THE NEW YEAR."

@loulou123666

18 "I CHECK MY STASH BEFORE BUYING ANYTHING NEW."

@knittingnotfast

DISCOUNT CODES!

GET 20% OFF!

We want to help you save on all your crafty essentials, so we asked some of our favourite brands to treat you to 20% off and they were happy to help! Simply use the corresponding code at checkout and enjoy. They're all valid from 7th January until 6th March – happy saving!



19 GORGEOUS ALPACAS

CODE: CRAFT22

Gorgeous Alpacas is home to sumptuous alpaca yarn sourced from UK herds. You'll also find fab knitting and crochet kits and even a range of ready-to-wear items. Visit gorgeousalpacas.co.uk



20 KNIT PICKS

CODE: LGC2023

Knit Picks produce high-quality, affordable yarns without compromising on their high ethical standards. There's a huge range available, plus patterns and accessories. Visit knitpicks.com
Excludes digital products and drop shipped products

21 WOOL COUTURE

CODE: GETCRAFT20

Putting a modern twist on traditional crafts, Wool Couture offers an array of accessible fibre craft kits, ranging from knitted blankets to felt bunting. Visit woolcouturecompany.com
Excludes sale items and kit add-on items

woolCOUTURE



22 MCINTOSH

CODE: LGC20

Luxurious and tactile, all McIntosh yarns are made with 100% pure natural fibres, and they're hand-dyed to order in stunning colourways. Visit knitmclintosh.com
This extended offer ends at midnight on 30th June 2023



PLUS
FREE UK
P&P!



23 CROCHET UK

CODE: LGC20

Design your own yarn cake by selecting the fibre, ply and colours yourself! Or choose from the stunning range of colourful gradient yarn cakes on offer. Visit crochet-uk.co.uk
Offer valid on all 50% cotton/50% acrylic yarns



24 JAMES MAKES YARN

CODE: TREATYOURSELF20

James runs his small-batch, hand-dyed yarn business from the Cotswolds, specialising in stunning, one-of-a-kind colours. Find him on Instagram at [@jamesmakesthings](https://www.instagram.com/jamesmakesthings). Visit jamesmakesyarn.com





PLUS

one 100g ball of cream DK, 30cm square cushion pad, tapestry needle

SIZE

Squares: 10cm x 10cm
Cushion: 30cm x 30cm

Sunburst cushion

Add a spare from your stash to create this hip homeware

One extra ball of yarn alongside your Artsy kit is all you need to make this stunning cushion, designed by **SARAH-JANE HICKS**. Each square uses three of the six shades from your kit in the order of your choosing, plus your extra yarn. With six colours and 16 squares there's no need to make the same square twice, so aim to create as many different combos as possible for maximum impact!



Take the next step

SUNBURST CUSHION

Note: use all six yarns from your kit in different colour order for

Rnds 1, 2 and 3 of each square

basic square

Using 3.75mm hook and first

shade make 4ch, join with a sl st to first ch

Rnd 1: 3ch (counts as 1tr), 15tr into ring, join with sl st

to top of first st. 16 sts

Change to new shade

Rnd 2: 2ch (does not count as st), 1ps in each st to end, join with a sl st to top of first st, sl st in ch sp

Change to new shade
Rnd 3: 2ch (does not count as st), (1tr cl, 2ch) in each ch sp to end, join with sl st to top of first st. 16 tr-cl and 16 2-ch sps

Fasten off
Rnd 4: join cream DK to any 2-ch sp, 4ch (counts as dtr), 2dtr in same 2-ch sp, * (1ch, 3tr in next 2-ch sp)

three times, 1ch, (3dtr, 3ch, 3dtr) in next 2-ch sp, rep from * twice more, (1ch, 3tr in next 2-ch sp) three times, 1ch, 3tr in next 2-ch sp, 1ch, 3dtr, in same 2-ch sp as first 3dtr, 3ch, join with sl st to top of first st

all other squares

Note: squares are joined using Join

GREAT ADVICE

To use the Join As You Go method (JAYG) substitute chain stitches on the last round of the square motifs as necessary with joining slip stitches into the corresponding chain spaces of the squares that you wish to join to

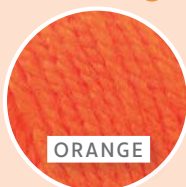


Run out of yarn?

TRY CYGNET LITTLE ONES A-Z DK, £0.99 PER 25G BALL FROM **WOOLWAREHOUSE.CO.UK**



RED



ORANGE



YELLOW



UBER CRANBERRY



QUIET PURPLE

TOP TIP

PLOT OUT
YOUR COLOUR
COMBOS
BEFOREHAND
TO GET THE
BEST MIX!

USE ALL
SIX
YARN
COLOURS!

Love
THIS PATTERN?

As you Go (JAYG) method, but if preferred you can sew or crochet them tog at end, using st markers to temporarily join points. Join squares so they are positioned diagonally across cushion, with four squares in centre of each side, weaving in rem ends and folding squares at sides in half. Insert cushion pad into cover

once two corners have been formed Using 3.75mm hook and first shade make 4ch, join with a sl st to first ch

Rnds 1-3: rep Rnds 1-3 of Basic Square Fasten off

Rnd 4: rep Rnd 4 of Basic Square using the JAYG method and working ch sts around ch sts of adjoining squares Fasten off Weave in all ends

**SKILL UP!**

Puff stitch (ps): yoh, insert hook in st, yoh and pull up loop. Three loops on hook. * Yoh, insert hook in same st, yoh and pull up loop. Five loops on hook. Rep from * once more. Seven loops on hook. Yoh, pull through all seven loops, 1ch to close st

Treble cluster (tr cl): yoh, insert hook in st, yoh and pull up loop, yoh and pull through first two loops. Two loops on hook. * Yoh, insert hook in same st, yoh and pull up loop, yoh and pull through first two loops. Three loops on hook. Rep from * twice more. Five loops on hook. Yoh hook, pull through all five loops



YOU'LL FIND ALL KINDS OF GRANNY SQUARE PATTERNS FOR FREE, INCLUDING MORE UNUSUAL DESIGNS LIKE THIS CAT GRANNY SQUARE, AT TOPCROCHETPATTERNS.COM



PLUS
tapestry
needle, stitch
holder
(optional),
press stud
fastening,
embroidery
needle and
thread

SIZE
8.5cm wide
6.5cm tall
2cm deep

Elephant pouch

Keep your coins, headphones or lip balm safe in this cute container

An elephant never forgets, so what better place to store those small items that always seem to go missing than in this sweet purse by **DAWN FINNEY**? Trolley coins, keys, receipts you need to keep a hold of... there's no shortage of things that our little ellie will look after for you! You'll be trying out a technique called Swiss darning, or duplicate st, in this project, which involves, quite simply, embroidering small 'v' shapes over the top of an already knitted stitch to place a new colour over the top. Easy peasy!



Take the
next step

POUCH

Using 3.75mm needles and Soft Violet cast on 16 sts leaving a long tail

Row 1 (RS): (k1, p1) to end

Row 2: (p1, k1) to end

Row 3: kfb, k13, kfb, k1. 18 sts

Row 4: pfb, p15, pfb, p1. 20 sts

Row 5: kfb, k17, kfb, k1. 22 sts

Row 6: p

Row 7: kfb, k19, kfb, k1. 24 sts

Rows 8-12: beg with a p row work in st st

Row 13: k17, turn, cont working on these 17 sts as

follows:

If desired, transfer rem unworked seven sts to a st holder

Rows 14-31: beg with a p row work in st st

Row 32: pfbfbf, pfbfbf, p15. 24 sts

Rows 33-36: cont in st st

Row 37: k1, k2tog, k19, k2tog. 22 sts

Row 38: p

Row 39: k1, k2tog, k17, k2tog. 20 sts

Row 40: p2tog, p15, p2tog, p1. 18 sts

Row 41: k1, k2tog, k13, k2tog. 16 sts

Rows 42-44: cont in st st

Change to Bold Red, leaving a long tail of Soft Violet

Row 45: k

Row 46: p

Row 47: k14, k2tog. 15 sts

Row 48: p

Change to Vibrant Orange, leaving a long tail of Vibrant Orange

Row 49: k13, k2tog. 14 sts

Row 50: p

Row 51: k12, k2tog. 13 sts

Row 52: p

Change to Bright Yellow, leaving a long tail of Bright Yellow

Row 53: k11, k2tog. 12 sts

Row 54: p2tog, p10. 11 st

Row 55: k9, k2tog. Ten sts

Row 56: p2tog, p8. Nine sts

Change to Bold Red, leaving a long tail of Bold Red

Row 57: k7, k2tog. Eight sts

Row 58: p2tog, p6. Seven sts

Row 59: k5, k2tog. Six sts

Row 60: p2tog, p4. Five sts

Row 61: k3, k2tog. Four sts

Row 62: p2tog, cast off pwise, leaving a short tail

Row 1a: k7, turn and cast on three sts. Ten sts

Rows 2a-12a: beg with a p row work in st st
Cast off, leaving a long tail

to make up

Fold Pouch aligning WS of Soft Violet with striped flap to front. Using long colour-change tail of Soft Violet, seam one side using mattress st. Using long cast-on



GREAT ADVICE

Looking to use this project as a coin purse? Stop very small items falling out by adding a zip and fabric lining. You can also personalise it further by adding an i-cord wrist or shoulder strap



SKILL UP!

Pfbfbf: p into front, back, front, back, front, all in

the same st

pfbfbf: p into front, back, front, back, all in the same st



TOP TIP

THIS PROJECT ONLY USES A SMALL AMOUNT OF YARN, SO YOU'LL HAVE PLENTY LEFT OVER TO MAKE MORE - WHY NOT MAKE A HERD IN ALL DIFFERENT COLOURS?



"If you've never tried Swiss darning, this project is the perfect way to see how easily small details can be embroidered onto a finished piece rather than being knitted using intarsia."

a finished piece rather than being knitted using intarsia."

DAWN FINNEY, DESIGNER

tail of Soft Violet, seam rem side tog, joining only cast-on edge of Trunk (Row 1a), then cont to seam side, leaving Trunk free. Use long cast-off tail of Trunk to join row edges of Trunk tog, then tack Trunk to front of Purse using running st. Using Rich Plum, embroider an eye. Using long tails of Bold Red, Bright Yellow and Vibrant Orange, embroider flap with decorative elements using Swiss darning

(duplicate st) and straight sts foll Chart. Use Bright Yellow to edge flap with blanket st. Use three

lengths of Vibrant Orange to create a tassel at corner of flap. Secure and weave in all rem ends. Use

embroidery needle and thread to attach a press stud to finished Pouch

CHART

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
45																
46																
47																
48																
49																
50																
51																
52																
53																
54																
55																
56																

KEY

- Bold Red
- Vibrant Orange
- Bright Yellow

SWISS DARNING

Also known as duplicate stitch, this is a useful technique that replicates the shape of knitted stitches. This makes it a handy alternative to colourwork for smaller areas, bearing in mind that it adds an extra layer of stitches on your base fabric.



Step 1: Thread your yarn onto a tapestry needle and bring the yarn out through the knitted fabric at the bottom of a stitch from back to front.



Step 2: Following the diagonal line of the V of the stitch, insert the tapestry needle underneath the bottom two strands of the stitch above.



Step 3: Take the yarn back down through the fabric at the original point to complete your Swiss-darned stitch, ensuring it lies flat but is not too tight.



Step 4: Work across the knitting in rows where possible, keeping the Swiss-darned V stitches neat and even, in keeping with the main knitted piece.

LET'S GET CRAFTING
**KNITTING
& CROCHET**
EXCLUSIVE!

KNITTING

IT'S BACK! WHICH TEAM

Who can resist these adorable patchwork pups by **SARAH LOUISE READ**? We certainly can't, and it doesn't matter whether you're a knitter at heart or a crochet fan, either crafting camp can make this cute companion, as there's a pattern for both. Thank us later! Tell us which one you'll be making at

[FACEBOOK.COM/KNITANDCROCHET](https://www.facebook.com/knitandcrochet)



VS CROCHET

ARE YOU ROOTING FOR?

CHOOSE YOUR PUP,
THEN TURN OVER
FOR THE PATTERN...





USE YOUR
Antsy
YARN KIT

PLUS

two 12mm
safety eyes,
stuffing,
tapestry
needle

SIZE

27cm tall



Perfect for
beginners

KNITTED PUPPY

leg

Make two (one in each colourway)
Using 3.75mm
needles and
Vibrant Orange
cast on 18 sts

Rows 1-23: beg
with a p (WS) row
work in st st
Change to Rich
Plum (Bright
Yellow)

Row 24: k1, kfb,
(k2, kfb) five times,
k1. 24 sts

Rows 25-27: cont
in st st

Row 28: k2, kfb,
(k3, kfb) five times,
k1. 30 sts

**Row 29 (WS) and
every foll WS**

row: p
Row 30: k3, kfb,
(k4, kfb) five times,
k1. 36 sts

Rows 31-35: cont
in st st

Row 36: (k1, k2tog)
to end. 24 sts

Row 38: (k2tog) to

end. 12 sts

Row 40: (k2tog) to
end. Six sts
Cut yarn leaving a
tail, thread
through rem sts,
pull tight and
fasten off

arm

Make two

Using 3.75mm
needles and
Vibrant Orange
cast on 12 sts

Rows 1-19: beg
with a p (WS) row
work in st st
Change to

Bold Red

Row 20 (RS): (k1,
kfb) to end. 18 sts
Rows 21-23: cont
in st st

Row 24: k1, kfb,
(k2, kfb) five times,
k1. 24 sts

Rows 25-29: cont
in st st

Row 30: (k2tog) to
end. 12 sts

Row 31: p

Row 32: (k2tog) to
end. Six sts

Cut yarn leaving a

tail, thread
through rem sts,
pull tight and
fasten off

body

Using 3.75mm
needles and Bold
Red cast on six sts

**Row 1 (WS) and
every foll WS**

row: p

Row 2: (kfb) to
end. 12 sts

Row 4: (kfb) to
end. 24 sts

Row 6: (k1, kfb) to
end. 36 sts

Row 8: k1, kfb, (k2,
kfb) 11 times, k1.
48 sts

Row 10: k2, kfb,
(k3, kfb) 11 times,
k1. 60 sts

Rows 11-15: beg
with a p row work
in st st

Change to Bright
Yellow

Rows 16-21: cont
in st st

Row 22: k4, k2tog,
(k8, k2tog) five
times, k4. 54 sts

Rows 23-25: cont

in st st

Row 26: k4, k2tog,
(k7, k2tog) five
times, k3. 48 sts

Rows 27-29: cont
in st st

Row 30: k3, k2tog,
(k6, k2tog) five
times, k3. 42 sts

Row 31: p
Change to Rich
Plum

Row 32: k

Row 33: p

Row 34: k3, k2tog,
(k5, k2tog) five
times, k2. 36 sts

Rows 35-37: cont
in st st

Row 38: k2, k2tog,
(k4, k2tog) five
times, k2. 30 sts

Rows 39-41: cont
in st st

Row 42: k2, k2tog,
(k3, k2tog) five
times, k1. 24 sts

Rows 43-45: cont
in st st

Cast off

head

Using 3.75mm
needles and Soft
Violet cast on

six sts

Rows 1-9: rep
Rows 1-9 of Body.
48 sts

Row 10 (RS): k4,
kfb, (k7, kfb) five
times, k3. 54 sts

Rows 11-21: beg
with a p row work
in st st

Row 22: k4, k2tog,
(k7, k2tog) five
times, k3. 48 sts

Row 24: k3, k2tog,
(k6, k2tog) five
times, k3. 42 sts

Row 26: k3, k2tog,
(k5, k2tog) five
times, k2. 36 sts

Rows 27-35: cont
in st st

Row 36: k2, k2tog,
(k4, k2tog) five
times, k2. 30 sts

Row 37: p2, p2tog,
(p3, p2tog) five
times, p1. 24 sts

Row 38: k1, k2tog,
(k2, k2tog) five
times, k1. 18 sts

Row 39: (p1, p2tog)
to end. 12 sts

Row 40: (k2tog) to
end. Six sts

Cut yarn leaving a
tail, thread
through rem sts,
pull tight and
fasten off

ear

Make two

Using 3.75mm
needles and
Purple Mix cast
on 12 sts

Rows 1-3: beg
with a p (WS)
row work in
st st

Row 4 (RS): k2,
kfb, (k3, kfb)
twice, k1. 15 sts

Rows 5-7: cont
in st st

Row 8: k2, kfb,
(k4, kfb) twice,
k2. 18 sts

Rows 9-11: cont
in st st

Row 12: k3, kfb,
(k5, kfb) twice,
k2. 21 sts

Rows 13-15: cont
in st st

Row 16: k3, kfb,
(k6, kfb) twice,
k3. 24 sts

Rows 17-21: cont
in st st

Row 22: (k2tog)
to end. 12 sts

Row 23: p

Row 24: (k2tog)
to end. Six sts

Cut yarn leaving
a tail, thread
through rem sts,
pull tight and
fasten off



to make up

Beg with Head and Body, sew seams
from fastened-off edge to cast-on
edge, inserting safety eyes in position
and stuffing firmly. Sew seams on Ears
and sew Ears onto sides of Head. Sew
Arms and Legs from fastened-off edge
to cast-on edge and stuff all limbs firmly
and close tops. Position Head and
secure to Body. Sew jointed Arms and
Legs by working through Body and
attaching limbs on either side. Do this
several times to secure while still
allowing them to move. Using a small
amount of Vibrant Orange and tapestry
needle, embroider nose onto face and
use Bright Yellow at side of eyes. To
make tail, attach small strands of Soft
Violet, Bright Yellow and Vibrant Orange
and plait, tie plait with Bold Red



PLUS

two 12mm safety eyes, stuffing, stitch markers, tapestry needle

SIZE

25cm tall



Perfect for beginners

CROCHET PUPPY

body

Using 3.75mm hook and Bold Red make a magic ring, work 6dc into ring. Six sts

Rnd 1: 2dc in each st to end. 12 sts

Rnd 2: (1dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 18 sts

Rnd 3: (2dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 24 sts

Rnd 4: (3dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 30 sts

Rnd 5: (4dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 36 sts

Rnd 6: (5dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 42 sts

Rnd 7: (6dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 48 sts

Rnd 8: (7dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 54 sts

Rnd 9: (8dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 60 sts

Rnd 10: 1dc in each st to end
Change to Bright Yellow

Rnds 11-14: 1dc in each st to end

Rnd 15: (8dc, dc2tog) to end. 54 sts

Rnds 16-17: 1dc in each st to end

Rnd 18: (7dc, dc2tog) to end. 48 sts

Rnds 19-21: 1dc in each st to end
Change to Rich Plum

Rnd 22: 1dc in each st to end

Rnd 23: (6dc, dc2tog) to end. 42 sts

Rnds 24-25: 1dc in each st to end

Rnd 26: (5dc, dc2tog) to end. 36 sts

Rnd 27: 1dc in each st to end

Rnd 28: (4dc, dc2tog) to end. 30 sts

Rnd 29: 1dc in each st to end

Rnd 30: (3dc, dc2tog) to end. 24 sts

Rnds 31-32: 1dc in each st to end
Stuff
Fasten off, leaving a long tail

head

Note: insert safety eyes between Rnds 12 and 13
Using 3.75mm hook and Soft Violet make a magic ring, work 6dc into ring. Six sts

Rnds 1-5: rep Rnds 1-5 of Puppy Body. 36 sts

Rnds 6-10: 1dc in each st to end

Rnd 11: (5dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 42 sts

Rnds 12-13: 1dc in each st to end

Rnd 14: (6dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 48 sts

Rnds 15-16: 1dc in each st to end

Rnd 17: (7dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 54 sts

Rnds 18-20: 1dc in each st to end

Rnd 21: (7dc, dc2tog) to end. 48 sts

Rnd 22: 1dc in each st to end

Rnd 23: (6dc, dc2tog) to end. 42 sts

Rnd 24: (5dc, dc2tog) to end. 36 sts

Rnd 25: (4dc, dc2tog) to end. 30 sts

Rnd 26: (3dc, dc2tog) to end. 24 sts

Rnd 27: (2dc, dc2tog) to end. 18 sts

Rnd 28: (1dc, dc2tog) to end. 12 sts

Rnd 29: (dc2tog) to end. Six sts
Stuff
Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

leg
Make two (one in each colourway)
Using 3.75mm hook and Bright Yellow (Rich Plum) make a magic ring, work 6dc into ring. Six sts

Rnds 1-2: 2dc in each st to end. 24 sts

Rnd 3: 1dc in each st to end

Rnd 4: (1dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 36 sts

Rnds 5-7: 1dc in each st to end

Rnd 8: (4dc, dc2tog) to end. 30 sts

Rnd 9: 1dc in each st to end

Rnd 10: (3dc, dc2tog) to end. 24 sts

CROCHET



Rnd 7: 1dc in each st to end

Rnd 8: (1dc, dc2tog) to end. 12 sts

Change to Vibrant Orange

Rnds 9-23: 1dc in each st to end

Stuff
Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

Rnds 11-12: 1dc in each st to end

Rnd 13: (2dc, dc2tog) to end. 18 sts

Change to Vibrant Orange

Rnds 14-29: 1dc in each st to end

Stuff
Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

ear

Make two

Using 3.75mm hook and Purple Mix make a magic ring, work 6dc into ring. Six sts

Rnds 1-3: rep Rnds 1-3 of Body. 24 sts

Rnds 4-8: 1dc in

each st to end

Rnd 9: (6dc, dc2tog) to end. 21 sts

Rnd 10: 1dc in each st to end

Rnd 11: (5dc, dc2tog) to end. 18 sts

Rnd 12: 1dc in each st to end

Rnd 13: (4dc, dc2tog) to end. 15 sts

Rnd 14: 1dc in each st to end

Rnd 15: (3dc, dc2tog) to end. 12 sts

Rnds 16-18: 1dc in each st to end

Stuff
Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

to make up

Position Head and sew onto Body. Sew jointed Arms and Legs by working through Body and attaching limbs on either side. Do this several times to secure while still allowing them to move. Sew Ears onto Head of Puppy. Using a small amount of Vibrant Orange and a tapestry needle, embroider nose onto face and use Bright Yellow at side of eyes. To make tail, attach small strands of Soft Violet, Bright Yellow and Vibrant Orange and plait, tie plait with Bold Red

YOU WILL NEED



YARN

Lily® Sugar'n Cream Solids, shades (A) 01004 Soft Ecru, (B) Seabreeze, two 70.9g balls of each

PLUS

4mm hook, button

SIZE

0-6 months

TENSION SQUARE

14htr x 10 rows = 10cm

Bonnie bib & booties

This cute little set would make a brilliant baby shower gift

Use two colours of easy-care cotton yarn and nifty long double trebles to create this fetching bib and matching booties. Stick with the colours shown, which work for both boys and girls, or choose from a wide range of brights and pastels in the Sugar'n Cream Solids range. This yarn is close to an aran weight and works up neatly on the 4mm hook.



Take the next step

BIB

Note: ch sps counted as sts
Using 4mm hook and yarn A make 21ch

Row 1 (RS): 1htr in third ch from hook, 2htr, (1ch, miss next ch, 3htr) to end, turn. 19 sts

Row 2: 2ch (does not count as st throughout), 2htr in first st, 1htr in each st or ch sp to last st, 2htr in last st, change to yarn B, turn. 21 sts
Row 3: 1ch (does not count as st throughout), 4dc, * long dtr, miss next st (behind long dtr), 3dc, rep from * to last st, 1dc, turn

Row 4: 1ch, 2dc in first st, 1dc in each st to last st, 2dc in last st, change to yarn A, turn. 23 sts
Row 5: 2ch, 1htr in first st, (1ch, miss

next st, 3htr) to last two sts, 1ch, miss next st, 1htr in last st, turn

Row 6: 2ch, 2htr in first st, 1htr in each st or ch sp to last st, 2htr in last st, change to yarn B, turn

Row 7: 1ch, 2dc, * long dtr, miss next st (behind long dtr), 3dc, rep from * to last three sts, long dtr, miss next st (behind long dtr), 2dc, turn

Row 8: 1ch (does not count as st), 2dc in first st, 1dc in each st to last st, 2dc in last st, change to yarn A, turn. 27 sts
Cont in colour patt as set by Rows 1-8 without shaping for 12 more rows

shape neck

Note: for a smoother colour change, pick up the next yarn in the final movement of the last st and before turning
Change to yarn A

Row 1 (RS): 2ch, patt six sts, htr2tog, turn. Seven sts

Leave rem sts unworked

Row 2: 2ch, htr2tog, patt to end of row, change to yarn B, 1ch, turn. Six sts

Row 3: 2ch, patt to last two sts, dc2tog, turn. Five sts

Work six rows in patt without shaping

Next row (WS): 2ch, 2htr in first st, patt to last two sts, htr2tog, change to yarn B, turn

Next row: 1ch, dc2tog, patt to last st, 2dc in last st, turn

Next row: 1ch, 2dc in first st, patt to last two sts, dc2tog, change to yarn A, turn

Next row: 2ch, htr2tog, patt to last st, 2htr in last st, turn

Next row: 2ch, 2htr in first st, patt to last two sts,

htr2tog
Fasten off
With RS facing, miss next 11 sts, join in yarn A with a sl st to next st, 2ch, htr2tog over this st and next st, patt to end of row, turn
Work this side to correspond to first side, reversing all shapings

edging

Join in yarn B with a sl st to top left corner of neck edge, 1ch, 1dc in same sp as last sl st, work one row of dc evenly around all edges, join with a sl st to first dc

Next rnd: working around outer edge only, 1ch, (working from left to right, instead of from right to left as usual) 1 crab st in each dc to opposite side
Fasten off
Using yarn B make button loop at centre back on left side. Sew

button in position

BOOTEES

Make two

Using 4mm hook and yarn B make 28ch
Row 1 (RS): 1dc in second ch from hook, 1dc in each ch to end, change to yarn A, turn. 27 sts

Row 2: 1ch, 1dc in each st to end, turn

Row 3: 2ch (does not count as st throughout), 1htr, (1ch, miss next st,

3htr) to last two sts, 1ch, miss next st, 1htr, turn

Row 4: 2ch, 1htr in first st, 1htr in each st or ch sp to end of row, change to yarn B, turn

Row 5: 1ch (does not count as st throughout), 1dc, * long dtr, miss next st (behind long dtr), 3dc, rep from * to last two sts, long dtr, miss next st (behind long dtr), 1dc in last st, turn

Row 6: 1ch, (4dc,



SKILL UP!

Long dtr: (yoh) twice and draw up a loop in missed ch

of foundation ch or next missed st two rows below in front of work. (Yoh and draw through two loops on hook) three times

Htr2tog: yoh and draw up a loop in next st, draw up a loop in next st, yoh and draw through all loops on hook

Crab stitch: * insert hook into next stitch to the right from front to back, with hook facing downwards. Pull working yarn back through stitch (two loops on hook). Wrap yarn around hook and pull through both loops on hook. One crab stitch made

dc2tog) to last three sts, 3dc, turn. 23 sts

Row 7 (eyelet

row): 1ch, (2dc, 1ch, miss next st) to last two sts, 2dc, turn

Row 8: 1ch, 1dc in each st or ch sp to end
Fasten off

instep

Row 1: with RS of work facing miss first seven sts, join yarn B with a sl st to next st, 1ch, 1 dc in same sp, 8dc, turn. Nine sts

Row 2: 2ch, 1htr in each st to end, turn

Row 3: 1ch, 1dc in each st to end, turn

Row 4: as Row 2

Row 5: 1ch, dc2tog, 1dc in each st to last two sts, dc2tog. Seven sts
Fasten off
Sew centre back seam

Next rnd: with RS of work facing change to yarn B

with a sl st at centre back seam, 1ch, 7dc, work 5dc down side of instep, 3dc in corner dc, 5dc across end of instep, 3dc in corner dc, 5dc along other side of instep, 7dc, join with sl st to first st. 35 sts

Next rnd: 1ch, 1dc in each st to end
Join in yarn A with a sl st to first st

Next rnd: 1ch, working in BLO, work 1dc in each st to end, join with a sl st to first st

Next rnd: 1ch, dc2tog, 13dc, dc2tog, 1dc, dc2tog, 13dc, dc2tog, join with a sl st to first st. 31 sts

Next rnd: 1ch, dc2tog, 11dc, dc2tog, 1dc, dc2tog, 11dc, dc2tog, join with a sl st to

first st. 27 sts

Next rnd: 1ch, dc2tog, 9dc, dc2tog, 1dc, dc2tog, 9dc, dc2tog, join with a sl st to first st. 23 sts
Fasten off
Join centre foot seam

drawstring

Using 4mm hook and yarn A, make a 40.5cm ch
Fasten off
Weave drawstring through eyelet row. Knot ends of drawstring





USE YOUR
Artsy
YARN KIT

PLUS
tapestry
needle, four
stitch markers

SIZE
8cm at
widest point
57cm around

TENSION
22 sts x 30
rows
10cm x 10cm
Stocking stitch
3.75mm
needles

Icelandic headband

This lopapeysa chart was designed especially for LGC readers!

“Diving into a lopapeysa chart for the first time can be a little intimidating,” says Joan of Dark, co-author of *Lopapeysa: A Knitter’s Guide to Iceland*, “so this basic headband pattern is intended to teach you the basics of knitting from a chart for the first time. The chart has been modified from our book just for Let’s Get Crafting! Originally, we used Lettlopi yarn because to truly be an Icelandic pattern it needs to be made with yarn from Iceland, but for a great introduction, you can make the modified version here with the yarn from this month’s kit.”



ICELANDIC HEADBAND

Using 3.75mm needles and Soft Violet cast on ten sts

Row 1 (RS): (k1, p1)

twice, pm, k2, pm, (k1, p1) twice

Row 2: (k1, p1) to marker, sm, p to marker, sm, (k1, p1) twice

Row 3 (inc row): (k1, p1) to marker, sm, (kfb) twice, sm, (k1, p1) twice. 12 sts

Row 4: as Row 2

Row 5: (k1, p1) to marker, sm, kfb, k to one st before marker, kfb, sm,

(k1, p1) to end. 14 sts

Rows 6-13: rep Rows 4-5 until there are 22 sts

Row 14: as Row 2

chart section

Beg with Row 1 and working from right to left for RS rows and left to right for WS rows, work 62 rows from Chart,

changing colour as indicated in key

strap

Row 1 (dec row):

(k1, p1) to marker, sm, ssk, k to two sts before marker, k2tog, sm, (k1, p1) to end. 20 sts

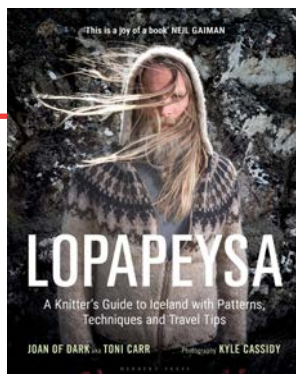
Row 2: (k1, p1) to marker, sm, p to marker, sm, (k1, p1) to end

Rows 3-13: rep Rows 1-2 until ten sts rem. Work in (k1, p1) rib until strap is long enough to fit

around head when slightly stretched. Cast off

to make up

Sew cast-on and cast-off edges tog. Weave in ends



LOVE THIS?

This pattern is a special adaptation of the Learn to Chart headband from *Lopapeysa* by Joan of Dark and Kyle Cassidy (Herbert Press, £25).

GREAT ADVICE

For this headband, you will knit back and forth, which means reading the chart from right to left on the first row, then left to right on the next row. This is different from a yoke chart, which is read from right to left each time

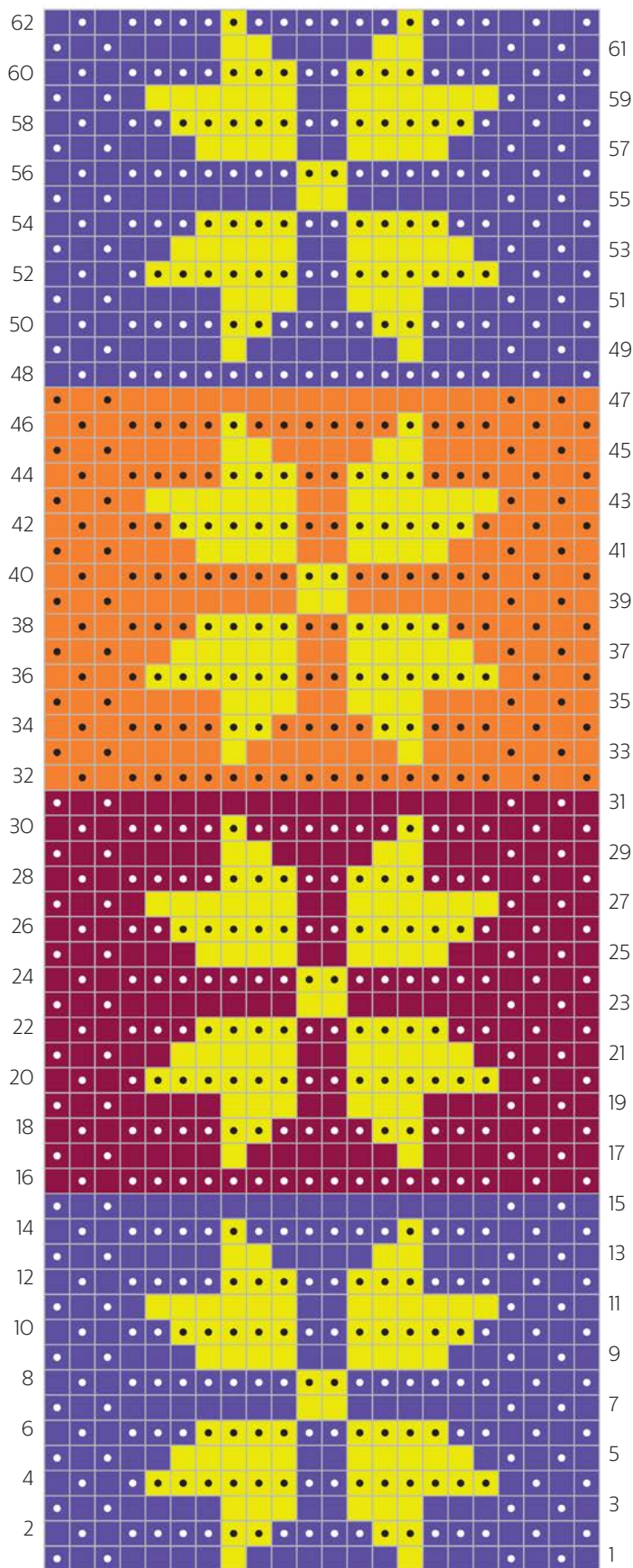




Turn
to page
46 to read
our interview
with Joan
and Kyle

Did you know? THE DESIGN ON THIS HEADBAND IS A DRYAS OCTOPETALA, THE ARCTIC EIGHT PETALED ROSE, ONE OF THE OLDEST TRADITIONAL ICELANDIC DESIGNS AND THEIR NATIONAL FLOWER

CHART



KEY



Knit

Purl

Soft Violet

Rich Plum

Vibrant Orange

Bright Yellow



THE LAND OF ICE & FIRE

Step into the extraordinary knitter's paradise that is Iceland as we chat with the authors of *Lopapeysa*

WORDS BY JODIE SHEEHAN

What do you get when you mix a knitting designer, a photographer and a trip around Iceland? A pretty spectacular book, that's what! The self-proclaimed 'nerdy knitter' Joan of Dark (aka Toni Carr) and talented photographer Kyle Cassidy made a visit to the magical, geologically fascinating place that is Iceland to write *Lopapeysa*, a book that is part travel guide, part knitting pattern collection. Filled with stunning photographs, Icelandic designer profiles, and a selection of beautiful patterns written by Joan during the trip, it's a joyful read that will have you reaching for your passport. We caught up with the authors to get a taste of their experiences while putting it together.



You may have heard that Iceland is something of a promised land for knitters – the unique wool, the Handknitting Association store, the way that knitting and wool are embedded in the country's very core. But not only is it paradise for crafters, it's also the perfect destination for those who love them too, as Kyle explains. "If you go on a knitting vacation to Iceland, and your spouse is knitting or faffing around with yarn, you can turn your head and look at the volcano that is right now spewing lava 300 feet into the air," Kyle says. "Iceland has this amazing, marvellous, mind-blowing knitting

scene – everybody knits, there's a yarn aisle in the grocery store – but there is so much else that will delight and fascinate non-knitters." Promising everything from the "life-changing experience" of seeing a volcano erupt, to beautiful, isolated landscapes, Kyle assures us that Iceland is for everyone.

As well as volcanic eruptions, Joan and Kyle got to see a lot of incredible things

during their trip, including unique Icelandic horses, hot springs, and a rehearsal of Iceland's most famous heavy metal band Sólstafr (yes, really). But Kyle's favourite thing, he says, was the people. "I think my favourite experience was meeting Palla Gunnarsdóttir, the 91-year-old woman from Búðardalur who picked up unusual techniques from the sweater of a shipwrecked sailor who washed up on the beach of her town in 1943 that she kept using," he recalls. "It was really gripping to hear her stories of how the lopapeysa evolved over the years and how thousands of women across the country contributed to it becoming what it is today."

And what is the lopapeysa today? Simply put, the lopi is a colourwork sweater that is knitted using unspun Icelandic wool. But really, it's so much more than that, as Joan explains. "The lopapeysa is so fascinating to me as an American, because there's nothing like it in our country. It's an article of clothing that everyone seems to own, almost like a national uniform. Everyone has one and has stories about them." It's a

**"ICELAND HAS THIS AMAZING,
MARVELLOUS, MIND-BLOWING KNITTING
SCENE – EVERYBODY KNITS, THERE'S A
YARN AISLE IN THE GROCERY STORE"**



treasured piece of the country's culture. The unique relationship between Icelanders and their lopis, Kyle thinks, is in part down to the fact that they are handmade, often by family members. "Wrapped up in it is the love of your grandmother, or your mother," he says. "And, the place is at 66 degrees north latitude – it gets cold up there. So you might as well have the extra warmth provided by love."

Like many people, during lockdown Kyle was eager to find something to fill his time when his photography work curtailed, and so he learned to knit over Zoom with Joan as his teacher. "The goal was that by the time we did get to Iceland, I'd be able to knit a

lopi while I was there," Kyle says. "Joan started out listing all the skills that I'd need to make one, and then each lesson we'd have a special cocktail and Joan would teach me one thing." If you're curious,

you can actually watch all of Joan and Kyle's lessons on YouTube – just search Drunk Knitting Iceland! "I will say though that one weird side effect of learning over Zoom was that I kind of had to

figure out how to hold the yarn on my own, and I knit really strangely now," he laughs. "But it works."

"WRAPPED UP IN THE LOPAPEYSA IS THE LOVE OF YOUR GRANDMOTHER, OR YOUR MOTHER"



"A lopapeysa is knit in almost one piece, usually from the bottom up and worked in the round to the underarms," Joan tells us. "Then the sleeves are knit, and everything is joined together at the yoke, where you start your colourwork pattern." Armed with this knowledge and all the necessary techniques, once in Iceland, Kyle set about knitting his very own lopapeysa. By making his lopi during his travels, Kyle was able to create something that acted almost like a diary of his time there. "Whenever you build something, whether it's a sweater or a house, that thing is made of time and it's made of memory," he says. "You're preserving an ephemeral experience that you had in a physical object. As a photographer, as someone who tries to preserve things, being able to essentially save emotions is both fascinating and wonderful to me." Everything that Kyle experienced, with Joan's help, could be turned into stitches and incorporated into his lopi. "My pattern had the earth, it had Viking swords, it had a design we saw on the pavement in Reykjavik, it had a volcano..." he recalls. "All of these things that I saw made it into this design."

Joan was also on the lookout for inspiration. "I've constantly got my phone out to photograph skylines, or patterns on the street, anything that looks like it could work its way into a chart," she says. The 'Learned Lopapeysa' pattern in the book is a prime example of how Joan's designs were shaped by her experiences in Iceland. "We were pretty much done with the book and ready to relax, but after seeing some women in short sleeve lopapeysa shirts, I had the idea to make one. Then I thought about how local knitter Janina Witzel added a rolled edge in a contrasting colour to all her lopi, and I knew I wanted to incorporate that into a pattern as well," she says. "The yoke came



from all the geometric shapes that were just bouncing around in my head from all the sweaters and drawings and stories we had seen. I sat at a table in Reykjavik and knit and designed the thing in one day!"

The lopi-style designs in the book, which include a hat, dress and a headband as well as several sweaters, pay homage to many of the Icelandic designers and knitters Joan met on her travels. "It's hard to say which I admire the most," Joan muses. "Rebekka Guðleifsdóttir is a pretty incredible designer and her patterns tend to be very unique. Also Palla Gunnarsdóttir, this older woman who I don't think published her designs, she just made them – she had this unique style of faroe knitting, and her sweaters were mostly one of a kind." Despite the complex cultivation, adaptation and change that has befallen

the lopi pattern and its colour charts over many years, Joan assures us that knitting one is in fact easily achievable. "Most knitters who are intimidated by a lopapeysa knit one then wonder why they were so worried!" Joan grins. "Make sure you understand the chart first, and know the decreases. Then just dive in."

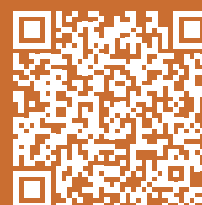
By the end of the trip, beginner knitter Kyle had indeed managed to make his very own lopapeysa – and it was a big moment. "The first time my head went through the finished sweater it was an eruption of joy – there are actually pictures of that moment in the book," Kyle recalls. "It was a year of work behind me in learning how to knit, planning the trip, doing all that work, and here was this physical thing at the end," he says. "Here was the tangible output of that intangible experience. And that was perfect."

"I'VE CONSTANTLY GOT MY PHONE OUT TO PHOTOGRAPH SKYLINES, OR PATTERNS ON THE STREET, ANYTHING THAT LOOKS LIKE IT COULD WORK ITS WAY INTO A CHART"

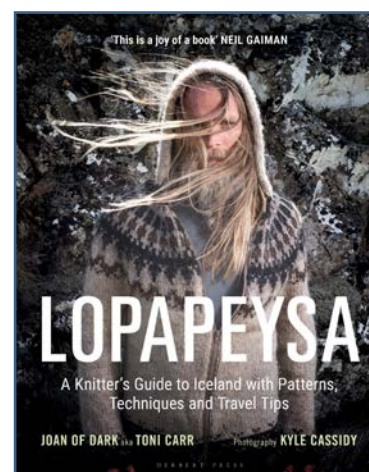


JOAN'S THREE TOP TIPS FOR KNITTING A LOPAPEYSA:

1. Relax your hands! When you're doing stranded colorwork you don't want a lot of tension.
2. If your gauge is tight, go up a needle size. If you're unsure, go up a needle size! Most Lopis, especially the ones knit in the bulkier Álafoss do best with a larger needle.
3. If you're new to working in the round, remember that most of the lopapeysa charts will have you starting on the right for each round, not right and left the way you may be used to!



Scan the QR code to read the full extended version of this interview!



Read all about Kyle and Joan's adventures in Iceland and discover 12 lopi-inspired knitting projects in *Lopapeysa* by Kyle Cassidy and Joan of Dark (Herbert Press, £25)

Little Zebedee

Make a pal for life in our sweet zebra toy

Deep in the grasslands of Africa, you'll find that zebras each have their own individual stripe pattern and Zebedee is no different with his unique rich purple shades. Quirky, colourful and cute-as-can-be, you can't help but fall in love with this adorable creation by **SACHIYO ISHII**. And he's eager to make friends with any imaginative little ones right away!



USING YOUR

Artsy

YARN KIT



PROJECT
OVERLEAF



USE YOUR Artsy YARN KIT



PLUS

two 6mm eye beads, black thread, stuffing, tapestry needle

SIZE

Height: 13cm



Perfect for beginners

LITTLE ZEBEDEE body

Using 3.75mm needles and Bright Yellow cast on ten sts

Row 1 and every odd-numbered row: p

Row 2: (kfb) to end. 20 sts

Row 4: (k1, kfb) to end. 30 sts

Row 6: (k2, kfb) to end. 40 sts

Row 8: (k3, kfb) to end. 50 sts

Row 9: p

Work in foll four-row stripe sequence: Rich Plum, Soft Violet

Rows 10-17: beg with a k row work in st st

Row 18: (k3, k2tog) to end. 40 sts

Row 19 and every odd-numbered row: p

Row 20: k

Row 22: (k2, k2tog) to end. 30 sts

Row 24: k

Row 26: (k1, k2tog) to end. 20 sts

Rows 27-33: cont in st st
Cast off

head

Using 3.75mm needles and Bright Yellow cast on ten sts
Rows 1-6: rep Rows 1-6 of Body. 40 sts

Rows 7-11: beg with a p row work in st st

Work in foll four-row stripe sequence: Soft Violet, Rich Plum

Row 12: k

Row 13: p

Row 14: (k2, k2tog) to end. 30 sts

Rows 15-19: cont in st st

Row 20: (k1, k2tog) to end. 20 sts

Rows 21-26: cont in st st

Row 27: (p2tog) to end. Ten sts
Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

leg

Make four

Using 3.75mm

needles and Bright Yellow cast on ten sts

Row 1 (WS): p

Row 2: (kfb) to end. 20 sts

Row 3: p

Row 4: k

Row 5 (edge): k

Rows 6-9: beg with a k row work in st st

Row 10 (ankle): k7, (k2tog) three times, k to end. 17 sts

Row 11: p

Work in foll four-row stripe sequence: Rich Plum, Soft Violet, Rich Plum

Row 12: k7, k3tog, k to end. 15 sts

Rows 13-23: cont in st st

Cont in Rich Plum only

Row 24: k1, (k2tog) to end. Eight sts
Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

ear

Make two

Using 3.75mm needles and

Bright Yellow cast on 20 sts

Change to Rich Plum

Row 1: k

Row 2: (p2tog) to end. Ten sts

Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

nostril

Make two

Using 3.75mm needles and Vibrant Orange cast on five sts

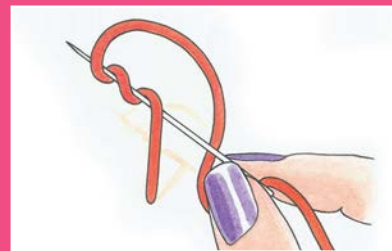
Row 1 (RS): skpo, k1, k2tog. Three sts
Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

tail

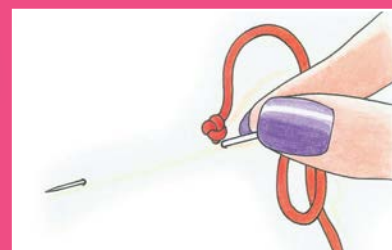
Cut length of Vibrant Orange to 60cm and tie ends tog. Fold into three so six strands lay parallel. Hold both ends, twist yarn tightly until it folds up on itself, insert one end slightly through other to

FRENCH KNOTS

These small decorative knots are great for adding details to toys



Step 1: Bring the yarn to the surface at the position for the knot. Wrap the yarn around the needle tip twice and take it back through the fabric where it came up.



Step 2: Ease the knot onto the surface of the fabric holding it steady while pulling the needle through to the wrong side. Stitch to secure or return to the surface for the next French knot.

secure and tie end with another length of yarn. Cut loops of tied end and trim

to make up

Using fastened-off tail sew Head seam halfway. With cast-on tail, work gathering thread around cast-on edge and draw tightly. Stuff and close seam. Rep for Body. Sew side edges of Ear from fastened-off end into circle. Sew Ears and eye beads to Head. Sew side edges of Nostrils tog into circle. Sew Nostrils to muzzle. Using Rich Plum French knot inside each

Nostril. Using Rich Plum embroider mouth with back sts. Using Vibrant Orange and back st, embroider large loops in every other st from top of Head to base. Cut loops. Attach Head to Body. Cont adding Vibrant Orange in same way to back of neck. Seam Legs and stuff. Thread Bright Yellow onto tapestry needle and insert from sole. Take needle out from ankle and rep. Pull thread to flatten sole and shape ankle. Attach Legs. Sew Tail to Body. Weave in all ends

SPOILT FOR CHOICE

All these yarns have 100 or more shades in their range... the mind boggles at the thought! Find any hue your heart desires and never again settle for a colour that's not quite right – instead find your project's perfect palette and bring your creations to life just how you envisioned them. The only limit is your imagination!



100 shades

FACT FILE

NAME: Stylecraft Special DK
YARN WEIGHT: DK
FIBRE CONTENT: 100% acrylic
SHADE PICTURED: Spice
PRICE: £2.05 per 100g (295m) ball, lincolnwoolpack.co.uk



110 shades

FACT FILE

NAME: Red Heart Super Saver
YARN WEIGHT: Worsted
FIBRE CONTENT: 100% acrylic
SHADE PICTURED: Hot Red
PRICE: £6.99 per 198g (333m) ball, readicut.co.uk

FACT FILE

NAME: Hayfield Bonus DK
YARN WEIGHT: DK
FIBRE CONTENT: 100% acrylic
SHADE PICTURED: Bright Lemon
PRICE: £2.70 per 100g (280m) ball, sirdar.com



100 shades

FACT FILE

NAME: Cascade Yarns® 220 Superwash
YARN WEIGHT: DK
FIBRE CONTENT: 100% wool
SHADE PICTURED: Turquoise
PRICE: £8.99 per 100g (200m) ball, lovecrafts.com



156 shades

FACT FILE

NAME: Knitpicks Palette
YARN WEIGHT: 4ply
FIBRE CONTENT: 100% Peruvian highland wool
SHADE PICTURED: French Lavender
PRICE: £4.31 per 50g (211m) ball, knitpicks.com



175 shades

FACT FILE

NAME: Scheepjes Catona
YARN WEIGHT: 4ply
FIBRE CONTENT: 100% mercerised cotton
SHADE PICTURED: Apple Green
PRICE: £1.29 per 25g (62m) ball, woolwarehouse.co.uk



113 shades



PLUS
ten 10mm
safety eyes,
stuffing, stitch
markers,
tapestry
needle, small
amounts of
white and
black DK

SIZE
Length: 16.5cm



Perfect for
beginners

CRAYONS

Make four

Using 3.75mm
hook and Bold
Red (Rich Plum,
Soft Violet, Vibrant
Orange) make a
magic ring, work
6dc into ring.
Six sts

Rnd 1: 1dc in each
st to end. Six sts

Rnd 2: (1dc, 2dc in
next st) to end.
Nine sts

Rnd 3 and every odd-numbered

rnd: 1dc in each st
to end

Change to
Bright Yellow

Rnd 4: (2dc, 2dc in
next st) to end.
12 sts

Rnd 6: (3dc, 2dc in
next st) to end.
15 sts

Rnd 8: (4dc, 2dc in
next st) to end.
18 sts

Change to Bold
Red (Rich Plum,
Soft Violet, Vibrant
Orange)

Note: insert safety
eyes between
Rnds 18-19, approx
five sts apart, stuff
as you go

Rnds 9-30: 1dc in
each st to end

Rnds 31-32:
working in back

loops only, 1dc in
each st to end
Change to
Purple Mix

Rnds 33-37: 1dc in
each st to end

Rnd 38: working in
back loops only,
(1dc, dc2tog) to

end. 12 sts
Stuff

Rnd 39: (dc2tog)
to end. Six sts
Fasten off, leaving
a long tail, sew
hole closed

yellow crayon

Using 3.75mm
hook and Bright
Yellow make a
magic ring, work
6dc into ring.
Six sts

Work as for
Crayons in foll
stripe sequence:

two rnds Bright
Yellow, one rnd
Purple Mix, five
rnds Bright Yellow,
one rnd Purple
Mix, 23 rnds Bright
Yellow, seven rnds
Purple Mix

to make up

Using black DK
and a tapestry
needle, embroider
mouth onto
Crayons. Using
white DK,
embroider eyelids
over eyes. Weave
in all ends

Crayon characters

Every day is a school day with these
lovable teaching tools

These super-cute crocheted crayons would be a cool way to teach a child how to recognise colours – and what's more you'll never find the evidence all over your walls! Our designer **SARAH LOUISE READ** has used all six colours from your Artsy kit, but there's no reason to stop there if you have others in your stash. If you're gifting these to a very young child, try embroidering different expressions onto each one instead of using safety eyes.

COMING NEXT ISSUE

CUTE CROCHETED
CHOCOLATE COVERS
READY FOR EASTER!

FUN FACT!

ACCORDING TO
RESEARCH CONDUCTED
BY CRAYOLA, BLUE IS
THE MOST POPULAR
CRAYON COLOUR –
WITH NO LESS THAN
SIX DIFFERENT SHADES
OF BLUE MAKING THE
TOP TEN!





USE ALL
SIX
YARN
COLOURS!

JOIN THE COMMUNITY!

Go on, enjoy a scroll on our Instagram page this winter



Exclusive giveaways to win fab crafty prizes



Expert tips to improve your makes



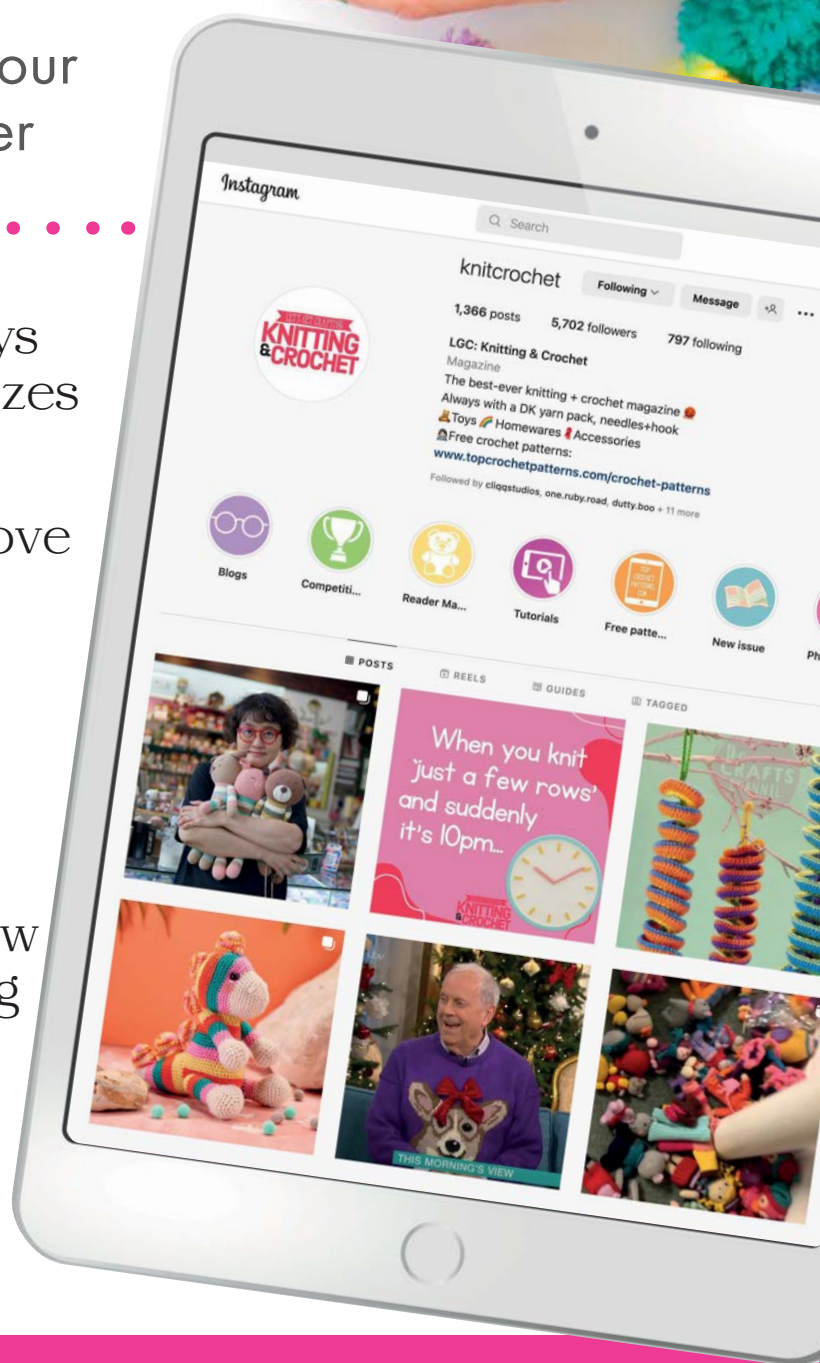
Project inspiration galore



See what your fellow crafters are making



Crafty giggles to make you smile



GO BEHIND THE SCENES WITH THE LGC TEAM BY FOLLOWING US ON INSTAGRAM @**KNITCROCHET**

Kitty doorstep

We've got the purr-fect project for all you cat-loving crafters

USING YOUR

Artsy

YARN KIT



PROJECT
OVERLEAF





PLUS
tapestry
needle,
stuffing, stones
or rice to use
as a weight

SIZE
Height: 27cm



KITTY DOORSTOP

body
Using 3.75mm
needles and Rich
Plum (see Great
Advice) cast on
ten sts

Row 1: (kfb) to
end. 20 sts
**Row 2 and every
even-numbered
row:** p
Row 3: (k1, kfb) to
end. 30 sts
Row 5: (k2, kfb) to
end. 40 sts
Row 7: (k3, kfb) to
end. 50 sts
Row 9: k
Row 11: (k4, kfb) to
end. 60 sts
Rows 12-42: beg
with a p row work
in st st
Row 43: (k3, kfb)
to end. 75 sts
Rows 44-52: cont
in st st
Row 53: (k4, kfb)
to end. 90 sts
Rows 54-62: cont
in st st
Row 63: (k5, kfb)
to end. 105 sts



27CM
TALL -
WOW!

This colourful make is not only super fun to knit, but practical too! Designed by **AINE MARRIOTT**, this lovable feline friend can be used to prop open your doors at home with the help of a handy weight placed inside it – you could even use a bag of rice for this. Alternatively, omit the weight altogether and create a cuddly toy for a tot instead.

Rows 64-72: cont
in st st
Row 73: (k6, kfb)
to end. 120 sts
Rows 74-82: cont
in st st
Row 83: (k10,
k2tog) to end.
110 sts
**Row 84 and every
even-numbered
row:** p
Row 85: (k9,
k2tog) to end.
100 sts
Row 87: (k8,
k2tog) to end.
90 sts
Row 89: (k7,
k2tog) to end.

80 sts
Row 91: (k6,
k2tog) to end.
70 sts
Row 93: (k5,
k2tog) to end.
60 sts
Row 95: (k4,
k2tog) to end.
50 sts
Row 97: (k3,
k2tog) to end.
40 sts
Row 99: (k2,
k2tog) to end.
30 sts
Row 101: (k1,
k2tog) to end.
20 sts
Row 103: (k2tog)

to end. Ten sts
Cut yarn leaving a
tail, thread
through rem sts,
pull tight and
fasten off

ear

Make two
Using 3.75mm
needles and Rich
Plum (Vibrant
Orange) cast on
ten sts
Row 1: k
**Row 2 and every
even-numbered
row:** p
Row 3: k1, k2tog,
k4, k2tog, k1.

Eight sts
Row 5: k1, k2tog,
k2, k2tog, k1. Six sts
Row 7: k1, (k2tog)
twice, k1. Four sts
Note: change to
Purple Mix after
Row 9
Row 9: (k2tog)
twice. Two sts
Row 11: kfb, k1.
Three sts
Row 13: (kfb)
twice, k1. Five sts
Row 15: kfb, k2,
kfb, k1. Seven sts
Row 17: k
Cast off pwise

tail

Using 3.75mm
needles and
Purple Mix (see
Great Advice) cast
on 18 sts
Rows 1-130: beg
with a k row work
in st st
Row 131: (k2tog) to
end. Nine sts
Cut yarn leaving a
tail, thread
through rem sts,
pull tight and
fasten off

to make up

Seam row edges
of Body, leaving
gap for stuffing.
Gather around
cast-on sts, pull up
tightly and fasten
off. Place stuffing
in base of Body
and insert weight.
Cont stuffing and
sew up. Fold Ears
so cast-on and
cast-off edges
meet. Seam row
edges. Oversew
across cast-on
and cast-off
edges. Sew Ears to
Head. Seam row

GREAT ADVICE

STRIPY STYLE

The Body and Tail
are made in the
foll stripe
sequences:

Body: four rows
Rich Plum, eight
rows Orange
Burst, eight rows
Soft Violet, 16
rows Bold Red,
four rows Bright
Yellow, 12 rows
Rich Plum, eight
rows Orange
Burst, 12 rows Soft
Violet, six rows
Purple Mix, four
rows Bold Red,
ten rows Bright
Yellow, 11 rows
Rich Plum

Tail: 16 rows
Purple Mix, four
rows Bold Red, 12
rows Bright
Yellow, eight rows
Rich Plum, 16
rows Vibrant
Orange, four rows
Soft Violet, 12
rows Bold Red,
eight rows Purple
Mix, 16 rows
Bright Yellow,
four rows Vibrant
Orange, 12 rows
Rich Plum, eight
rows Soft Violet,
four rows Bold
Red, seven rows
Purple Mix

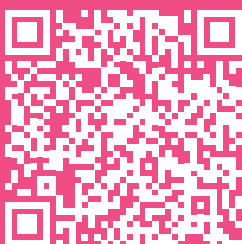
edges of Tail,
stuffing lightly.
Twist end of Tail
into coil and hold
in place with a few
sts. Sew Tail to
side of Body. Use
Rich Plum to
embroider nose
and eyes at top of
Head. Use Purple
Mix to embroider
mouth and
whiskers. Weave
in all ends



10 MORE PROJECTS FOR YOUR ARTSY KIT!



As if you didn't have enough inspiration already, we've put together a bonus download pack for you so that you've got even more to make with your Artsy kit! There are some super sweet characters eager to meet you, such as our trio of teeny tortoises, our amigurumi kangaroo and joey, and our pair of cheery bears. Plus, you'll find fab home makes such as our rose wall hanging, and an array of knitted scent sachets. Scan the QR code now to get started!



Scan the QR code using the camera on your smartphone



Or visit **topcrochetpatterns.com** and search 'Artsy download pack'



Download the pack, save it somewhere safe and start crafting!

ISSUE
149

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Coming next issue

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PARADE

colour pack

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your FREE
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pattern,
worth £5



QUIRKY BASKETS



ROSA THE AXOLOTL



PROJECTS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

it's time for Easter fun!



3mm
bamboo
needles

3mm
metal
hook



NEW KNITALONG

- Bumper collection of **Easter projects**
- Exclusive interview with knitted Sandringham maker **Margaret Seaman**
- Start your stunning three-part **summer wreath**
- Yarn shopping guide: **spring shades special**



Tom Daley – Made With Love: 30 Knitting and Crochet Patterns

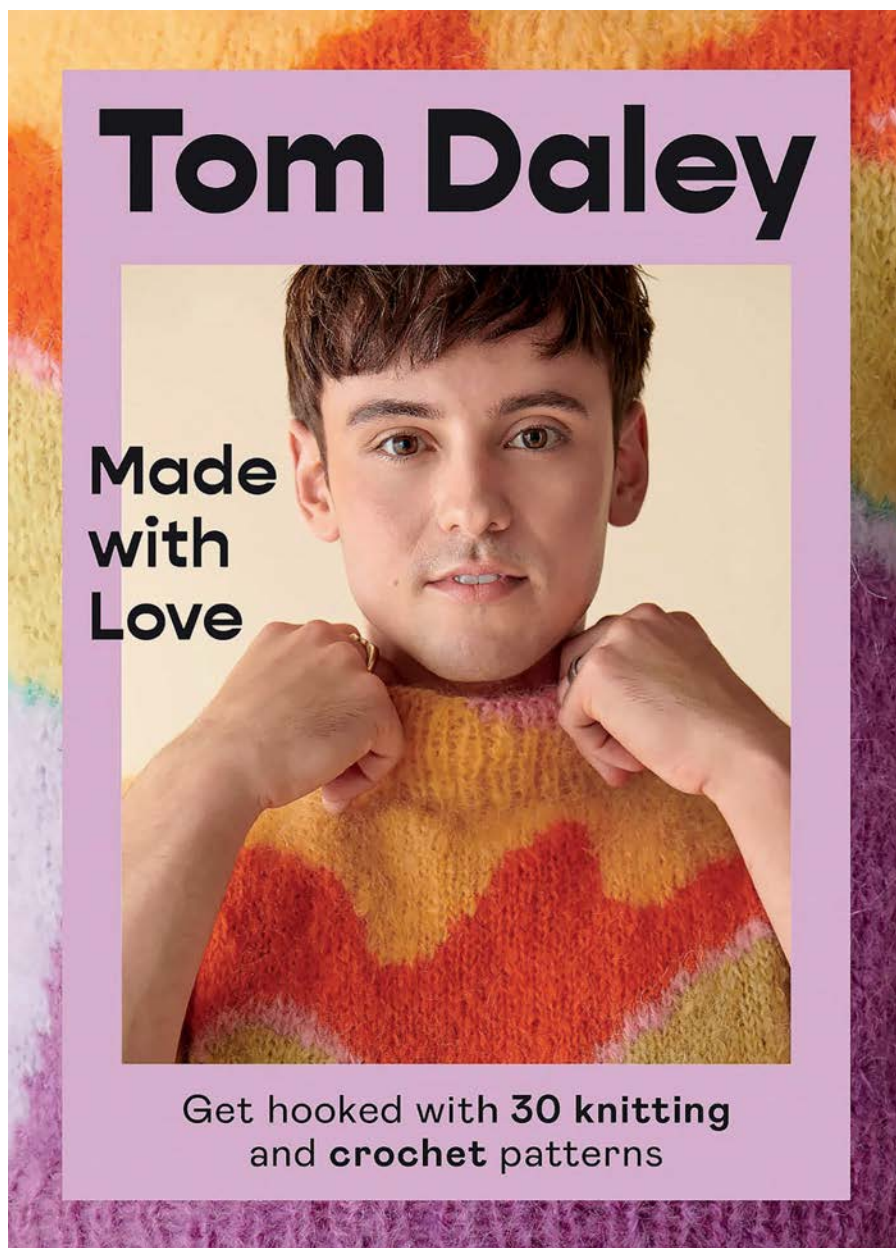
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FREE*
P&P

Thread the love with Tom Daley's eagerly awaited debut knitting and crochet book. Tom Daley is on a mission to inspire the next generation of crafters. Stitch by stitch, in *Made With Love* he wants readers everywhere to discover the joys of knitting and crochet.

Alongside 30 exclusive size inclusive projects ranging from covetable gifts to chic homeware, cosy accessories and stylish wardrobe essentials, Tom offers helpful tips and tricks to support even the most tentative of beginners. Whether it's for yourself or a loved one, *Made With Love* will soon have you creating projects to be proud of.

352-page hardback book.

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CODE:M2578





STITCH SCHOOL

New to knitting or crochet? You'll get the hang of it in no time with our at-a-glance guides

TOOLKIT ESSENTIALS

Tapestry needle A blunt needle with a large eye, perfect for threading with yarn. It's used for weaving in ends, sewing seams and embroidery – a must-have!

Stitch marker Used to identify an important place in your knitting or crochet to help guide you – there are ring markers and locking stitch markers available

Stuffing We're all about the toys, so you'll need stuffing to turn them from 2D to 3D

Safety eyes Bring your toys to life with a pair of eyes, but don't let the name fool you – they're not suitable for very young children

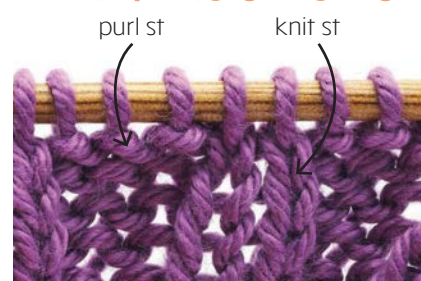
Stitch holder Used by knitters to hold live stitches when not being worked on the needles



BEGINNER BUY

Sirdar's Kith & Kin range of knitting and crochet kits are perfect for beginners. With makes including homewares, kids' clothes and accessories, these bright and colourful kits come with everything you need to complete a project. Sirdar also has a collection of handy how-to videos on its website to help absolute newbies take their first steps. The kits retail at £15 to £25 from sirdar.com

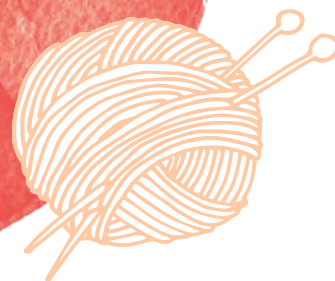
IDENTIFYING STITCHES



Beginner knitters often ask, "How can I tell the difference between a knit stitch and a purl stitch?" It's actually really easy! A knit stitch looks like a 'V', and a purl stitch appears as a bump. This is useful to know when working patterns like rib that involve switching between the two, or when following instructions such as 'knit the knit stitches and purl the purl stitches'.

Turn over for our classic stitch illustrations

LEARN TO KNIT



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Sign up to the UK's friendliest online knitting club for instant access to thousands of designer patterns, exclusive knitalongs, a private community and discounts from your favourite brands. With new content added every day, there's no end to the knitting fun!

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Let's knit together

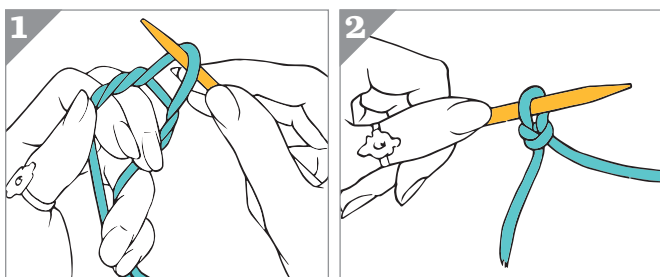
This month's highlights:

- Patchwork blanket knitalong
- Christening shawl
- Knitted dog

START HERE

slip knot

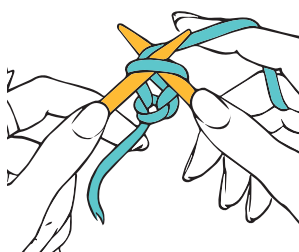
You need to make a slip knot on your needle before casting on. It counts as your first cast-on stitch



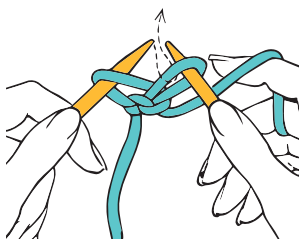
- 1** Hold the yarn under your left thumb, wrap it twice around your left index and middle fingers, with the second loop closer to the base of the fingers. With the backs of the fingers uppermost, insert the tip of the needle beneath the first loop and over the second, then pull the second loop under the first.
- 2** Remove your two fingers and gently tug on both ends of yarn to tighten the slip knot around the needle.

cast on

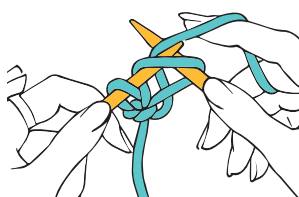
This method, also called the 'two-needle method', is great for beginners



- 1** Make a slip knot on the LH needle and pull it taut. Insert the RH needle into the knot from front to back, passing under the LH needle. Wrap the ball end of yarn anti-clockwise around the point of the RH needle.



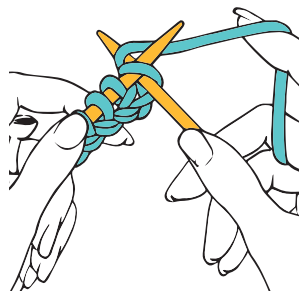
- 2** Pull the loop that forms back through the original stitch and insert the tip of the LH needle into the new stitch from underneath to transfer from the RH to LH needle. There should now be two stitches on the LH needle.



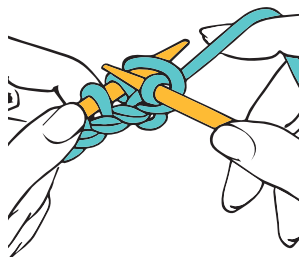
- 3** Repeat the above steps, knitting into the top stitch on the LH needle and returning the new stitches from the RH to the LH needle until you have the required number of stitches.

knit stitch (k)

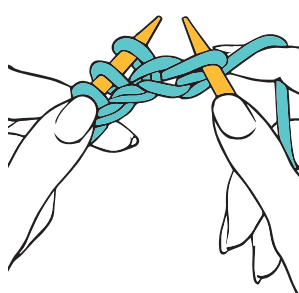
Also known as garter stitch, the knit stitch is the foundation of knitting



- 1** Once cast on, insert the tip of the RH needle upwards and from front to back into the top stitch on the LH needle. The RH needle should sit behind the LH one. Wrap the ball end of yarn anti-clockwise around the tip of the RH needle.



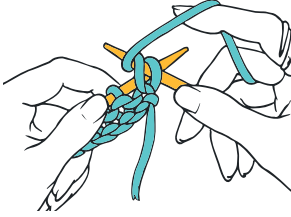
- 2** Using the RH needle, pull a loop of the wrapped yarn through the original stitch to create a new one on the RH needle.



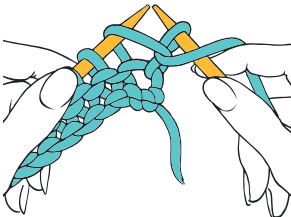
- 3** Slide the original stitch off the LH needle. Repeat from step 1.

purl stitch (p)

Most frequently seen paired with the knit stitch to create different stitch patterns like stocking stitch and ribbing



1 With the ball-end of the yarn at the front (towards you), insert the tip of the RH needle into the front loop of the first stitch from right to left, with the RH needle in front of the LH one. Wrap the ball end of the yarn anti-clockwise around the RH needle.



2 Draw this needle backwards and upwards, forming a new stitch on the RH needle.



3 Once the new stitch has been formed on the RH needle you can let the loop from the LH needle slide off the end. Repeat until all the stitches have been purred and you have completed the row.

INCREASING & DECREASING

knit two together (k2tog)

Decrease two stitches to one by knitting them together



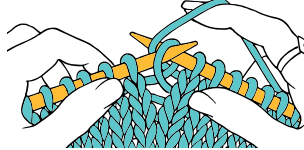
Insert the RH needle into the front loops of the next two stitches on the LH needle. Then wrap the yarn anti-clockwise around the tip and knit both stitches at the same time.

make one (m1)

Form a new stitch and increase your stitch count by one



1 Insert the LH needle into the horizontal bar of yarn lying between the stitch just knitted and the next stitch to be knitted. Hook and lift it with the needle tip in a backwards direction (away from you).

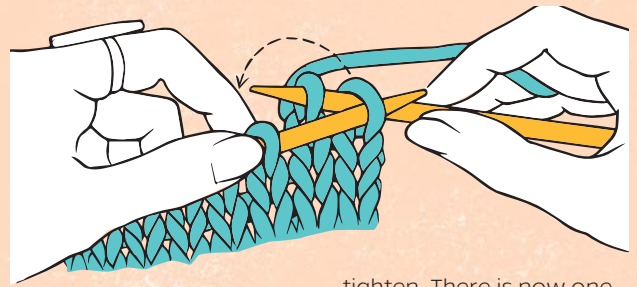


2 Push the RH needle into the back part of the loop that now lies over the LH needle and knit this stitch. You will now have an additional stitch on the RH needle.

FINISH HERE

cast off

Once you have completed the number of rows needed for your project, you'll need to cast off. This fastens the work and keeps it from unravelling



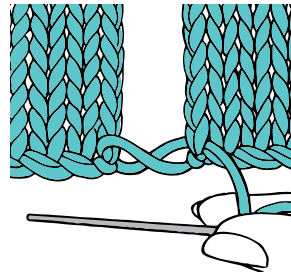
1 Knit two stitches as normal. Insert the tip of the LH needle into the second stitch on the RH needle (the stitch closest to you). Carefully lift it up and over the top stitch, dropping it off the tip of the RH needle and pulling the yarn to

tighten. There is now one stitch on the RH needle.

2 Knit one more stitch and repeat the process in step one. Continue until there is one stitch remaining. Cut the yarn, leaving a long tail. Slip the loop off the needle and pull the tail through, pulling it tight.

beginning a seam

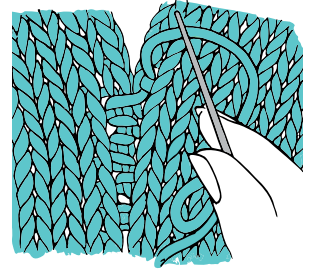
How to start sewing up your project



Place the pieces next to each other RS up, push a threaded tapestry needle through the fabric after the first stitch, moving from front to back. Push through after the first stitch on the second piece, moving from back to front.

mattress stitch

Join knitted pieces together with this invisible method



With the two pieces next to each other, hook the horizontal bar of the first stitch with a needle. Move to the other piece and hook the first horizontal bar of the stitch on that side. Repeat, moving from one piece to the next.

ABBREVIATIONS

Here's a handy list of the most common abbreviations

alt: alternate
approx: approximately
beg: beginning
BLO: back loops only
ch: chain
ch sp: chain space
cn: cable needle
cont: continue
dc: double crochet

dec: decrease
dtr: double treble
FLO: front loops only
fol: following
htr: half treble
inc: increase
k: knit
kfb: knit into front and back of next stitch
knw: knitwise
k2tog: knit two together
LH: left-hand

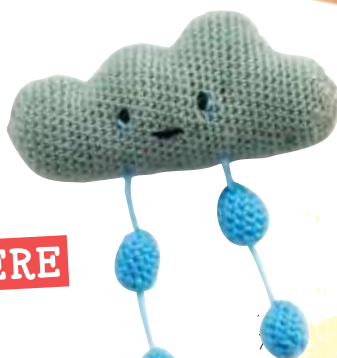
m1: make one stitch by picking up horizontal loop before next stitch and knitting into back of it
meas: measures
p: purl
pf: purl into front and back of next stitch
pm: place stitch marker
psso: pass slipped stitch over
pw: purlwise

p2tog: purl two together
rem: remaining
rep: repeat
rev: reverse
RH: right-hand
RS: right side
skpo: slip one, knit one, pass slipped stitch over
sl 1: slip one stitch
sl st: slip stitch
sm: slip stitch marker
sp(s): space(s)
ssk: one by one, slip next two stitches

knitwise, put left-hand needle through front loops of both slipped stitches and knit them together
st(s): stitch(es)
st st: stocking stitch (knit one row, purl one row)
tbl: through back loop
tog: together
tr: treble
WS: wrong side
wyib: with yarn

in back
wyif: with yarn in front
yb: yarn back
yfwd: yarn forward (between knit stitches)
yoh: yarn over hook
yon: yarn over needle (between a purl and a knit stitch)
yrn: yarn round needle (between purl stitches and between a knit and a purl stitch)

LEARN TO CROCHET

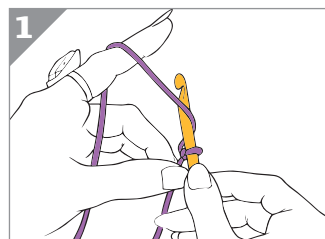


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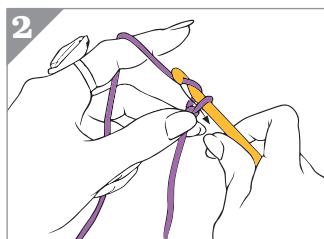
START HERE

slip knot & chain (ch)

Many projects start with a series of chain stitches. To begin you need to make a slip knot on your hook (see page 62)



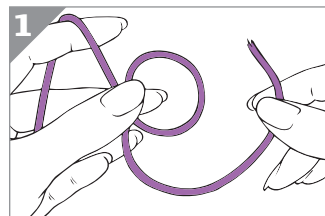
1 Make a slip knot and put it on the neck of the hook – don't pull it too tight or it will be difficult to stitch with. Coming from behind, wrap the yarn around the hook from right to left, across the 'neck'.



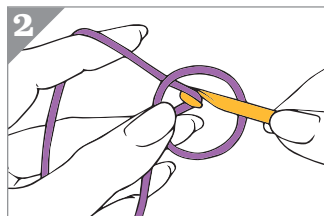
2 Catch the yarn and use the hook to pull it down through the slip knot. You have now made one chain (ch). Continue to make more chains, as directed in the pattern.

magic ring

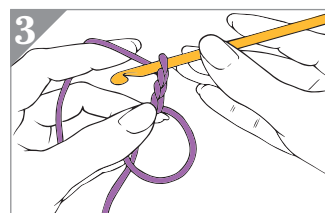
The magic ring is an easy way of beginning to work in the round. It is often used when making amigurumi toys



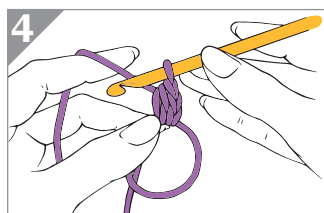
1 Make a large loop by putting the yarn tail behind the working yarn.



2 With your hook, draw the working yarn through the loop, so you have one loop on the hook.



3 Make three chain stitches (counts as first treble), work a treble into the loop, crocheting over the tail.

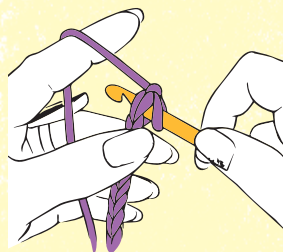


4 Continue to work as many stitches as needed into the loop. Once finished, untwist the tail if necessary and then pull to close the loop.

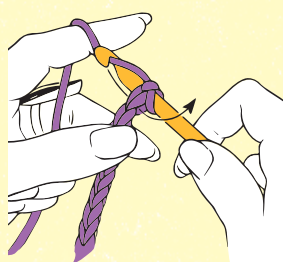
THE BASIC STITCHES

double crochet (dc)

Double crochet is the shortest and most commonly-used crochet stitch



1 Insert hook through both strands of the next stitch.



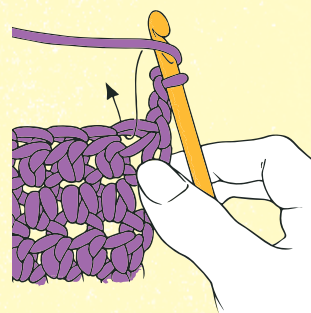
2 Yarn over the hook and draw back through the work. There will be two loops of yarn on the hook.



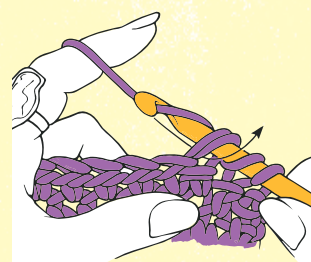
3 Yarn over the hook again and draw through both loops.

half treble (htr)

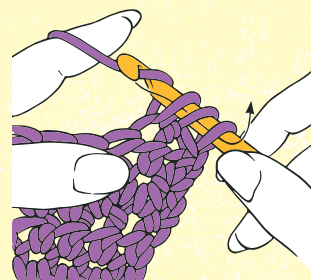
This stitch is longer than a double crochet and involves one extra step



1 (You will need a turning chain of two stitches.) Yarn over the hook and insert through the stitch.



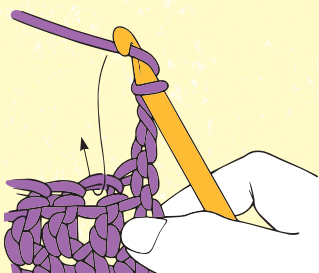
2 Yarn over the hook and draw back through the work. There will be three loops of yarn on the hook.



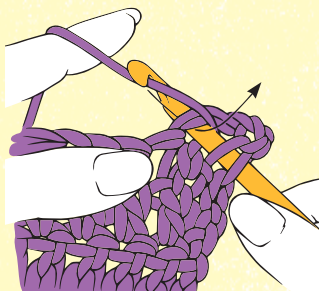
3 Yarn over the hook and draw through all three loops.

treble (tr)

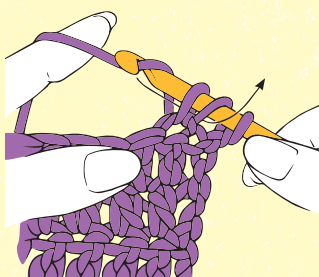
Treble crochet is slightly taller than half treble crochet but is made in a similar way



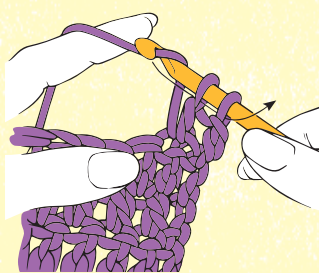
1 (You will need a turning chain of three stitches). Yarn over the hook. Insert the hook through the stitch.



2 Yarn over the hook and draw back through the work, there will be three loops of yarn on the hook.



3 Yarn over the hook and draw through the first two loops. This will leave two loops on the hook.

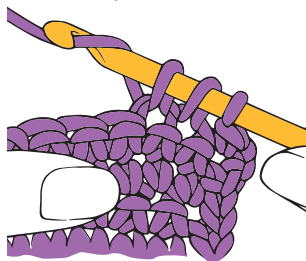


4 Yarn over the hook and draw through all the loops. This will leave one loop on the hook.

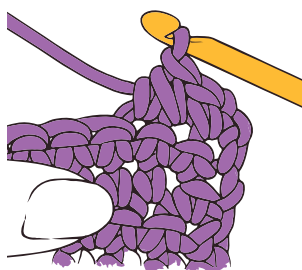
DECREASING

double crochet two together (dc2tog)

Turn two crochet stitches into one with this simple method



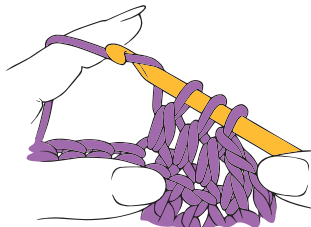
1 Insert hook through next stitch, yarn over hook, draw back through work. Two loops on hook. Insert hook into next stitch, yarn over hook, draw back through. Three loops on hook.



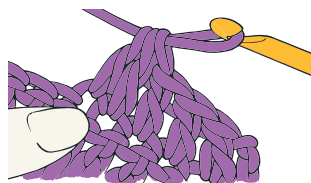
2 Yarn over hook, draw through all three loops. One loop on hook.

treble two together (tr2tog)

This is similar to 'dc2tog' but is worked with treble stitches



1 Yarn over the hook. Insert the hook through the stitch. Yarn over the hook and draw back through the work. There will be three loops of yarn on the hook. Yarn over the hook and draw through the first two loops. This will leave two loops on the hook. Yarn over the hook and insert through the next stitch, yarn over the hook and draw through the work. There will be four loops of yarn on the hook. Yarn over hook and draw through two loops. This will leave three loops on the hook.



2 Yarn over hook and draw through all three loops on the hook. This will leave one loop on the hook.

VIDEO OF THE MONTH



[YOUTUBE.COM/THETCRAFTSCHANNEL](https://www.youtube.com/thecraftschannel)

LET'S GET CRAFTING KNITTING & CROCHET

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Lærke's creative journal sketchbook



Robin Skjoldborg, 2021

TEA AND A CHAT WITH...

Lærke Bagger

Hailed Europe's coolest knitter, Danish designer Lærke Bagger takes a refreshing approach to knitting, leaving the rule book behind. Lærke's new book *Close Knit* celebrates having fun with your craft, embracing mistakes and championing experimentation over perfection – something we're absolutely here for over at LGC! "I think it's a book about enjoying life and just forgiving yourself," Lærke tells us. "It's also about moving away from this perception of what a knitter is, you know, 'it's this person that sits on the sofa at home, knitting a sweater'. No, it's not," she counters. "It's whatever you want it to be, you define what it is." Certainly, knitting has diversified and seen a revival in recent years, and it's no longer viewed as tethered to a narrow demographic as it once was. Lærke thinks this modern-day shift in popularity is in part due to the need to escape our heavily digitalised world today. "We're online constantly," she says. "Even when I'm watching something on my computer, I second screen on my phone. So having a craft where you actually use your hands and you're forced to look at it, where you can't be online, is like a sanctuary."

BE YOU

With her unique sense of style that even

earned her a nomination for 'Newcomer of the Year' in the prestigious Elle Style Awards in 2020, Lærke's designs are quirky, colourful, and a whole lot of fun – think knitting with fur, scrap techniques and spectacular gala dresses! Lærke's main inspiration, she says, is pop culture, but she is also heavily influenced by the old knitting leaflets and technique books she's been collecting since she was 15. "I collect books on crochet, patchwork and quilting, everything! I would say I have over 400 old technique books, in German, English, Dutch, Danish, Norwegian, Swedish, all languages." But more than anything, Lærke tries to simply be herself. "Every day I make an effort to stay true to me, listening to me and being proud of me. That's what I want *Close Knit* to communicate," she says, "create your own universe, based on your own aesthetics, preferences, yarn and abilities. Be you, not Lærke Bagger. Only use from the book what makes sense to you. Because I'm no expert either."

MISTAKES ARE FOR MAKING

Many knitters can relate to Lærke when it comes to her dislike for weaving in ends – and as someone who loves to use as many different colours as possible, Lærke decided a new approach was in order. "I just started knotting the ends and was like, 'hey this

is nice. It looks handmade, and it is handmade'. Kind of like life," she muses, "filled with flaws and perfect in its imperfection." Lærke's unique techniques and shortcuts are a great example of the refreshing way she approaches crafting. "I want people to enjoy doing crafts without feeling like they should be someone they're not," she explains, pointing out that in the past, perfectionism and an emphasis on doing things 'the right way' has been a hindrance to knitters and their acceptance within the craft community. "But fortunately, we're moving past this and now you can do things your own way," she says. "If you want to tie a knot, tie a knot. If you don't want to tie a knot, don't tie a knot. Don't be afraid to make mistakes, just embrace them, because they're going to come anyway. And hopefully this will also reflect on some of the other aspects of your life," she adds. "If you'll forgive yourself because you've lost a stitch, maybe you'll forgive yourself for other mistakes you make in life."



Close Knit by Lærke Bagger (Prestel, £25) is out now!



The Bad Idea Dress Lærke made for the Elle Style Awards – in just three weeks!

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